

THE
ADVENTURES
OF
NUMA POMPILIUS,
SECOND KING OF ROME.

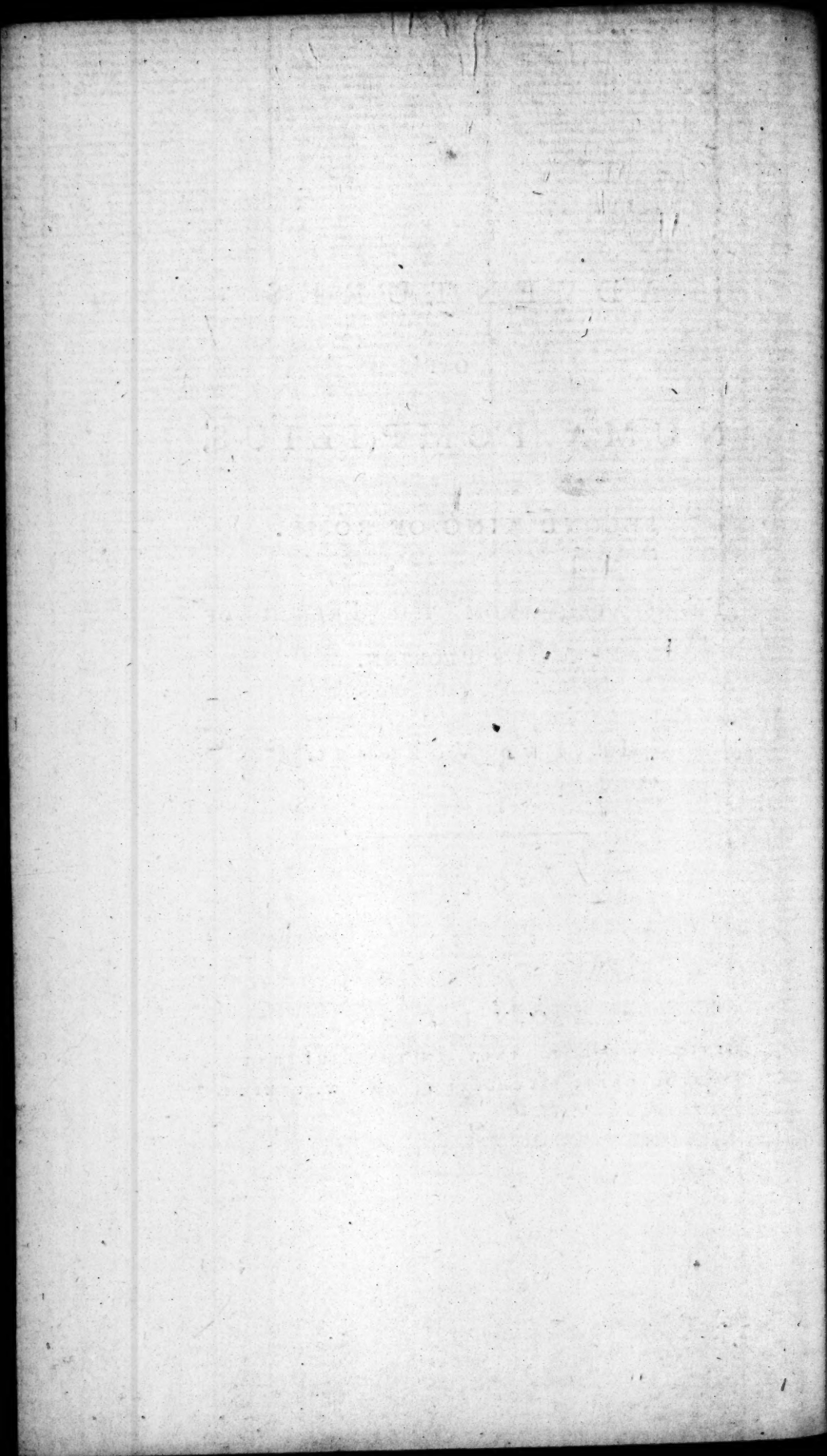
TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF
M. DE FLORIAN.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED FOR C. DILLY, IN THE POULTRY; J.
STOCKDALE, PICCADILLY; AND W. CREECH,
EDINBURGH.

MDCCCLXXXVII.



C O N T E N T S

O F V O L U M E II.

B O O K VII.

Numa carries the body of Tatius to Rome. Tatia's despair. Numa is anxious to fulfil the oath which he made to the dying king. Romulus forbids it. Hersilia goes in search of him: her prayers and tears have no influence upon him. The funeral of Tatius. The death of his daughter. The revolt of the Sabines. The barbarous precaution of Romulus. Numa devotes himself for his people. He is banished from Rome. He meets Leo. Page 1

B O O K VIII.

Leo relates the history of his earliest youth; his affection for his mother Myrtale; his passion for Camilla; the sacrifice of his passion; Myrtale's instructions to him on her death-bed. Numa wishes to follow Leo to his ancient cottage. They wander among the Apennines. Numa meets an old man and his daughter. He sees them worship the fire. - - - 48

ii C O N T E N T S.

B O O K I X.

Numa and Leo are received by the old man. They admire his daughter Anais, and leave the cottage with regret. Leo revisits his former habitation. He meets Camilla. The joy of these two lovers. Camilla relates her adventures. She is married to Leo. They set out with Numa to pay a visit to the old man. Numa preserves Anais and her father from robbers. He is wounded. The history of Zoroaster. Leo becomes acquainted with his father. - - Page 101

B O O K X.

Troubles at Rome. Numa's happiness. Leo solicits the hand of Anais for his friend. Zoroaster refuses. The speech of Numa. He obtains Anais. On the point of marrying her. The arrival of the Roman ambassadors. They relate the calamities of Rome, the plague by which it has been ravaged, the death of Romulus, and the election of Numa. Numa refuses the crown. Anais's arguments to induce him to accept it. He remains inflexible. 150

BOOK

CONTENTS. iii

BOOK XI.

The shade of Tatius appears to Numa. The flight of Anais and her father. Numa's despair. He obeys the gods, and determines to reign. Leo goes in search of his sister. Numa's arrival at Rome. The joy of the people. The first actions of Numa. He visits Egeria's wood. His conversation with that nymph concerning the choice of his ministers, war, policy, social contract, laws and religion. The government of Numa. - Page 196

BOOK XII.

Herfilia, accompanied by several kings, approaches to besiege Rome. The arrival of Camilla and Leo, who bring with them a prisoner. Leo's nocturnal expedition. The Marsi hasten to the assistance of the Romans. A battle is ready to commence. The speech of Numa. He disarms his enemies. The death of Herfilia. A general peace. Numa shuts the temple of Janus. He finds Anais, and becomes her husband. 246

NUMA

CONTENTS

BOOK XI

The Book of Daniel appears to be written by Daniel, the
right of Daniel and his father. Daniel's
father. The story of the book is
written to show the power of God
in the world. Daniel is a man of
faith. He is a man of prayer. He
is a man of study. He is a man of
action. He is a man of love. He
is a man of peace. He is a man of
joy. He is a man of hope. He is
a man of faith. He is a man of
prayer. He is a man of study. He
is a man of action. He is a man of
love. He is a man of peace. He is
a man of joy. He is a man of hope.

BOOK XII

The Book of Daniel appears to be written by Daniel, the
right of Daniel and his father. Daniel's
father. The story of the book is
written to show the power of God
in the world. Daniel is a man of
faith. He is a man of prayer. He
is a man of study. He is a man of
action. He is a man of love. He
is a man of peace. He is a man of
joy. He is a man of hope. He is
a man of faith. He is a man of
prayer. He is a man of study. He
is a man of action. He is a man of
love. He is a man of peace. He is
a man of joy. He is a man of hope.

NUMA POMPILIUS.

A R G U M E N T.

B O O K VII.

Numa carries the body of Tatius to Rome. Tatia's despair. Numa is anxious to fulfil the oath which he made to the dying king. Romulus forbids it. Hersilia goes in search of him: her prayers and tears have no influence upon him. The funeral of Tatius. The death of his daughter. The revolt of the Sabines. The barbarous precaution of Romulus. Numa devotes himself for his people. He is banished from Rome. He meets Leo.

NIGHT had already spread her dark mantle over the earth, before the senses of Numa revived, Tatius's bloody corpse filled him with horror, and reminded him of the oath which he had taken. Without repenting or complaining of his pro-

mise, he thought only on the duty which he owed to the departed king; and fearing lest his body should be stolen, if he left it for a single moment, he lifted it on his shoulders, and advanced with slow steps towards the city. When arrived at the first guard, he called the Sabine soldiers, gave them the body of their king, and ordered them to carry it with solemnity to Tatia's palace; in the mean time, he preceded them with hasty steps, to prepare that unhappy princess for the mournful tidings, of which she was so soon to be informed.

The pious and affectionate Tatia, alarmed at her father's absence, seemed to anticipate his calamity. Alone by the light of a lamp, she was occupied in spinning a purple robe for her beloved father, perpetually pausing from her work, and counting with sighs the
hours

hours which had passed since she beheld Tatius. Numberless forebodings conspired to fill her breast with apprehensions ; an inward terror chilled her soul ; the instruments of her labour fell from her hands, and her disconsolate eyes were fixed upon the ground.

Numa, at that moment, appeared. His agitated countenance, his tears, and his garments stained with blood, redoubled Tatia's alarm. She rose trembling from her seat ; yet dared not to ask him concerning her father's safety. Daughter of Tatius, said he in broken accents, you have to-day need of that fortitude, and of that uniform patience, to which your heart has by habit been accustomed. I am going to expose it to the severest trial : but remember, that for the support of those evils which flesh is heir to,

the gods have bestowed upon us friendship and virtue.

As he concluded, the Sabines arrived, bearing the body of their king. Tatia wildly shrieked, and threw herself upon her dead father, clasped him in her arms, and became deprived instantly of her senses. Every assistance was afforded, and she was recalled again to life. On opening her eyes, she cast them upon her lifeless parent, contemplated his gaping wounds, without shedding a single tear: her tongue uttered no lamentation whatsoever. Her bosom laboured under the severest oppression: fixed and immovable she could neither weep nor respire.

Alarmed at her silent grief, Numa ordered the body of Tatius to be removed; on which Tatia uttered the most piercing shrieks, and shed a
pro-

profusion of tears. From this symptom Numa derived hopes of her safety, and convinced that she would be relieved by weeping, he left her to the care of her women, and went to give his commands, that the king's body, after being washed with the most costly perfumes, should be placed on a purple bed. He stationed guards round Tatia's palace; and, after discharging these melancholy duties, he prepared for a still more painful office, that of declaring to Romulus his resolution not to become his son.

With what a variety of emotions was he agitated, as he approached the palace of the Roman monarch! He was going to surrender for ever the object of his adoration, and to rob himself of that which no other could take from him; he was going volun-

tarily to renounce her, to acquaint her with his purpose, to appear in her eyes guilty of the darkest perfidy, to suffer the pain of this severe sacrifice, and to endure the shame of being thought inconstant. These formidable considerations began to shake his virtue ; but it soon recovered its rightful empire. The shades of Tullus and Tatius were his constant attendants : they afforded him support ; they suggested that though the sacrifice might be painful, it was indispensably requisite, and that he could obtain nothing but disgrace and despair from an alliance with the murderer of his king, with the foe of his family, from a marriage founded on perjury, and commenced by auspices so replete with horror.

He at length entered the palace of Romulus, and found him at table, surrounded

rounded by his courtiers. The gloom of anxiety was seated on his brow; his features were marked with disquietude and vexation. Such is the beginning of that punishment which attends on iniquity. Romulus was already informed of the murder of Tatius: he feared being suspected, and tormented by this reflection, much more than by remorse, he preserved a dark silence, which his courtiers did not fail to imitate. Herfilia, standing near her father, endeavoured, by the music of her lyre, to dissipate his anxiety, and she sung to him the victory of Jupiter over the Titans.

Numa presented himself before Romulus, and could not repress his agitation. The appearance of Tatius's assassin excited a degree of horror which he could not subdue. He notwithstanding made every possible ex-

ertion, cast his eyes upon the ground as if he himself had been the criminal, and, recollecting that even the crimes of kings cannot justify a subject for neglecting the respect due to their station, he addressed the Roman monarch in the following terms :

Romulus, thy colleague has perished by the hands of villains. My eyes beheld Tatius fall by the blows of four assassins. Two of those barbarians this arm destroyed : but the others escaped, and will perhaps remain unpunished, till they meet the vengeance of the immortal gods. Thou knowest those ties of blood by which I was connected with the king of the Sabines ; but thou, perhaps, art not sufficiently acquainted with that affectionate respect with which I beheld his virtues. These combined motives impose upon me great and severe duties :

duties: I hope, however, to fulfil them all. King of Rome, I adore Herfilia, and life without her appears unworthy of my acceptance: yet I have promised and sworn to Tatius, in his last moments, to espouse his daughter; and this oath I shall certainly fulfil. I here return the offer thou hast made, I renounce all that is dear to me, and beg thy consent to be for ever wretched.

Thus spoke Numa; and his eyes remained fixed upon the earth. Romulus through astonishment delayed his reply. Herfilia in confusion dropped her lyre from her hands: and the courtiers waited undetermined whether they should rejoice or grieve, till they were acquainted with the sentiments of their master.

He at last arose, and beholding Numa with eyes full of indignation:
Young

Young man, said he, I was not uninformed of my colleague's death, and my orders are already issued to seize and to punish those who have been guilty of the murder. Whatever were thy affection for Tatius, thou mightest have trusted to a king to revenge a king's assassination. Yet, if I am instructed how to punish crimes, I know also how to check ambition. I forbid thee, Numa, to marry the daughter of the Sabine monarch; her title to her father's throne, when confounded with thy pretensions, may hereafter become formidable to my authority: I shall therefore provide for her another husband. As to the indignity offered me by the refusal of my daughter, were I less than the son of Mars, it might justly offend me; yet I wish to
make

make an allowance for thy youth, for the immense distance which separates us from each other, and to remember besides that thou wert useful to my army.

After pronouncing these words with an accent which he endeavoured to render mild, Romulus departed without waiting for Numa's farther answer. That unhappy lover wished to converse with Herfilia, but the fierce Amazon beheld him with a disdainful look, passed near him without condescending to speak, and followed by her warriors, went to rejoin her father.

Herfilia's contempt pierced the heart of Numa, but it rendered the sacrifice less painful and oppressive. Enraged at Romulus and his daughter, determined to expose his life to pre-
serve

serve fidelity to his king, he hastily returned, with more firmness and tranquillity, to Tatia's palace.

Daughter of the best of monarchs, he said, as he approached her, forgive me, if in the midst of your grief, I presume to mention another subject. Your father, in his last moments, committed you to my care. His departing soul received consolation from the oath which I took to become your husband. Yet Romulus forbids its completion. He, indeed, founds his prohibition on no right whatever. Since we are both Sabines, we must be bound by the commands of the Sabine king : to obey him during life was our first duty ; to obey him after death is a duty still more inviolable. I attempt not to conceal from you that I once adored Herfilia : but, since the death
of

of Tatius, exile and pain in your society, have appeared to me preferable to a throne with the daughter of his assassin. If you are satisfied with this assurance, prepare to join me in defying the threats of Romulus ; prepare to see the flame of your father's pile become our nuptial torch.

He spoke, and Tatia heard him with affectionate admiration. Having long entertained for him a secret and unhappy passion, she replied, with blushes, that he was the master of her fate. Numa promised her perpetual fidelity ; and more secure in his resolution by the threats of Romulus, than by his own exertions to subdue himself, he made the funeral of the amiable Tatius his only present occupation.

The morning had scarcely risen, when Numa was preparing to set out
with

with a body of Sabines to the high mountains, in order to cut down trees for the pile : his grief was alleviated by those pious cares which were confined to his own bosom. Yet, at the moment of his departure, Herfilia appeared before him, and begged a private interview.

She was no longer that fierce Amazon, whose disdainful glances confounded those who presumed to contemplate her beauty ; she was no longer that warlike heroine, by whose invincible arm such a number of enemies had been destroyed ; she was a despairing lover, whose cheeks were furrowed with the tears which she had shed, whose eyes, harrassed with weeping, still shone through the cloud which covered them ; her hair and garments were in disorder, and the impression of grief which cast a shade over her charms,

charms, bestowed on them a grace still more attractive.

Behold me, Numa, said she, reduced by love to the most humiliating situation : Hersilia is come to seek thee in thy palace ; Hersilia appears a suppliant, perhaps to experience a refusal. Alas ! didst thou know my pride, thou must be satisfied how dear thou art to me ; thou must know —— Ungrateful as thou art, thou knowest it but too well. I will not degrade myself by reminding thee, perhaps in vain, of the extent of my passion ; without mentioning Hersilia, I wish to speak to thee concerning thyself.

I am acquainted, Numa, with thy disposition ; I conclude that my father's prohibition will make thee hasten thy nuptials with the daughter of Tatius ; but thou knowest little of
Romulus,

Romulus, if thou canst suppose he will pardon thy disobedience. Be assured, that, at the moment when thou darest to set his commands at defiance, the licitor's axe will separate thy head from thy body. A dread of this will doubtless not impede thy intention; but thou wilt not perish alone: the blood of Tatia will flow with thine. And canst thou believe that Tatius, whose memory is so dear to thee, would not beg thee on his knees to spare his daughter's life? When he received thy promise to become her husband, he thought he gave her a protector, and removed her from the reach of danger: but if this marriage be a sentence of death to Tatia, if thy fidelity prove her destruction, thou failest to execute the chief of her father's wishes, thou art guilty of a crime against the Sabine monarch.

I speak

I speak not of myself; of myself, ungrateful man, who believed that I was the object of thy affection;—of myself; for whom thou didst not hesitate to shed thy blood. Alas! less happy; I have for thee done nothing; but thou hast so many claims upon my gratitude, that I consider thy sacrifices for me as so many eternal pledges of thy affection: Yes, Numa, it is for Herfilia that thou art become a warrior; it is her whom thou hast rendered invincible by giving her the celestial buckler; it is her whom thou hast preserved by opposing thy breast to Leo's javelin; I am indebted to thee for my fame, and for my life: and wouldst thou desert me, after having made it my duty, my obligation to adore thee! Why didst thou shield me from destruction? Why for me alone didst thou become a hero

the most amiable and illustrious? Have I incurred thy displeasure? Am I deserving of thy reproaches? Have I failed in proofs of my affection? Some forgiveness surely is due to Romulus's daughter, who has been accustomed to treat kings who adored her with inattention and neglect. She ought doubtless to be pardoned for concealing the first flame which ever fired her bosom. My sufferings too, far exceeded thine. The violence which I imposed upon my feelings was a sufficient punishment for my pride. Thou seest the servile humility into which it is now converted. Behold me at thy feet; behold me bathing thy knees with my tears. Deign, Numa, to look down upon me, recollect that I am Hersilia, and then complain if thou canst, of my past severity.

In

In a state of unutterable agitation, Numa dared not to meet the eyes of Herfilia. Her voice alone was sufficient to penetrate his soul. An object dearer to him than life was prostrate at his feet. He heard her confess that he was the idol of her adoration. His resolution, while she spoke, diminished by degrees, resembling the snow which gradually dissolves, and disappears under the influence of the radiant sun. The prudent Numa began to consider Herfilia's arguments as weighty and conclusive: his heart, inflamed with desire, and melted into softness by the tender declarations he had heard, was perhaps ready to yield, when Metius, the aged general of the Sabines, interrupted this dangerous interview.

Son of Pompilius, said he, with a melancholy and severe accent, our

mournful Sabines solicit your attendance; the people who have lost their father, desire to behold the heir of his virtues. Come then, and afford comfort to their disconsolate sorrow, by promising to love them with Tatius's affection, and by swearing to defend the worthy daughter of the best of monarchs.

The noise of the people was now heard at the gate of the palace. Amidst tones of grief, the name of Numa was distinguished. Let the virtuous Numa come forward, exclaimed they; let our hero, our friend, our remaining prince, the only hope of a deserted people, appear! Come, Numa, and inform us of the last wishes of our worthy king; we will sacrifice our lives to carry them into execution.

This

This affecting language, the tears of Metius, and the blood of Tatius, with which his robe was still stained, and which seemed to cry aloud for vengeance, conspired to remind him of his honour, at the moment when it was in the greatest danger of being forgotten. I adore you, Herfilia! exclaimed he, you are more precious to me than my life: but my duty is dearer than Herfilia. The gods, who now bear witness to my conduct, the people to whom I should furnish an example of virtue, my own heart, which I cannot deceive, all impose on me an inviolable obligation to fulfil the oath which I have made. The manes of my mother witness my intentions; and however painful it may prove, the sacrifice shall be completed. I feel that I shall die; but ——

No, barbarian, thou art in no fear of death, exclaimed Herfilia with an accent of the most furious indignation; I will turn the wrath of my father to another object; I will point out a victim to his fury. Thou shalt be indulged with life; thou shalt live, that thou mayest suffer lingering punishment, and afford me time and opportunity to satiate my just revenge. Perfidious! thou fearest to break an oath which Tatius extorted from thee! Why then dost thou not dread violating those thou hast made to me? These were voluntary. Ungrate! who, under the mask of virtue, hidest thy ambitious project of becoming king of the Sabines, and of depriving my father of a throne? Tremble at the fate which threatens thee; dread the calamities which thou preparest
for

for thyself ; and hope not to escape them. The name of Romulus will encompass thee with a host of enemies. A persecuted wanderer, a miserable exile, thy misfortunes and thy affected virtue, shalt seek relief in every nation in Italy, and be contemptuously rejected by them all. A prey to poignant remorse, for having occasioned the death of thy wife, and for having abandoned thy mistress, thou shalt mourn thy inconstancy as the worst of crimes. Thou shalt regret Herfilia, thou shalt seek her with the most earnest supplication ; but she shall be found only promoting thy misery and ruin. While I possess life, the flames of my revenge shall incessantly pursue thee ; and should thy perfidy prove my death, my shade shall associate with the merci-

less furies, and add to the horrors of thy punishment.

At these words she left Numa, who, ashamed of her outrageous conduct, dared not to cast his eyes upon Metius, but went to afford the Sabines consolation. Alarmed, however, at Herfilia's threats, and dreading the criminal ambition of Romulus, he commanded the aged general to guard with his soldiers Tatia's palace. Followed by a troop of Sabines, he proceeded to the mountains, in order to plunder them of their pines, sacred to Cybele, of their high poplars, and of their ash trees, which, when formed into javelins, are so fatal to the human race. The sounds of the axe resounded far and wide. The gloomy cypresses fell into the valley, and the beech descended with a horrid crash. They were soon despoiled of their verdant leaves ;

leaves; their knotty trunks were rolled to the banks of the Tiber, where a pile, not far from the city, was already raised, on which the body of Tatius was to be reduced to ashes.

On the morrow, the remains of the departed king, clothed in purple, were brought thither by the principal persons among the Sabines. One thousand young warriors preceded. They advanced with their arms inverted, their heads reclined, marching with deliberate step, to the sound of mournful music. The disconsolate Tatia, covered with a funeral veil, and crowned with cypress, sprinkled the bier with flowers, which had been previously watered with her tears. Numa, clad like her in robes of sadness, soothed her anguish, supported and consoled her by becoming a partner in her woe, and the whole body
of

of the Sabine people, who crouded round them, expressed the loudest and most bitter lamentations.

Metius, in particular, who, during sixty years had been the king's friend and associate, smote his breast, tore up by the roots his venerable hair, and exclaimed, O my master, O thou best of monarchs ! Have the cruel fates only spared my life, that I might behold thee descend into the tomb, that I might lose at the same time my friend, my father, and my king ! O Tatius, Tatius ! How often in my youth have I seen thee set death at defiance ? How often, when surrounded with enemies, hast thou acquired glory, and vanquished danger. Yet, in the midst of thy people, and of thy children, the swords of parricides have been raised against thee. That heart, always open to the wretched, has

has been pierced by monsters of ingratitude: and the gods brought thee no assistance! They allowed the perfect image of their benevolence upon earth to perish undefended! O Tatius, Tatius, of all thy subjects I ought the least to lament thee, since I have hopes of surviving thee the shortest period.

Such was the lamentation of Metius, and the people, who listened to him with attention, answered with sighs and groans to his mournful exclamations.

They at length placed the body on the pile, and sacrificed the victims. Numa poured on the earth two vessels full of wine, two of milk, and two of blood; grateful libations to the manes. He then called aloud upon the spirit of Tatius; and, turning aside his face, he applied a torch to the pile. The flames quickly ascended;

ed; the people redoubled their lamentations, and the soldiers elevated their bucklers; when Numa commanded silence, and beholding with a religious reverence the pale visage of Tatius, which the flames had not yet reached :

O thou most just of kings, exclaimed he, I promised thee, in thy last moments, to become the husband of thy daughter; I swore that my life should be employed in proving to her tenderness and protection. The oath which I then made, I intend now to fulfil. This pile shall be the altar of our nuptials; and on this sacred altar, in the presence of thy manes, before the people who lament thy loss, by the light of these funeral torches, and under the inspection of deities who pursue perfidy with destruction, I pledge to Tatia an eternal fidelity.

fidelity. Yes, Sabines, may the avenging gods, may yourselves, may all the friends of Tatius be my enemies, if, during the whole period of my life, I am not occupied in rendering happy the amiable partner, which has been given me by Tatius ! May the blood of the best of monarchs be on my head, if I discharge not to his worthy daughter the debt of gratitude which I owe him.

He now joined his hand to that of Tatia, and endeavoured to extend them together towards the pile. But Tatia was unable to support the ceremony ; her limbs failed, and she sunk into the arms of Numa ; a cold sweat bedewed her brow ; her tongue was deprived of utterance ; and other symptoms announced the most alarming convulsions : she fell upon the ground, struggled, and exhausted her

her strength in unavailing efforts; and, notwithstanding every assistance from Numa and the Sabines, expired in agonies.

Every heart was struck with horror at this unfortunate spectacle. The effects of poison were too evident to be mistaken. Already the report was circulated among the people, and a confused murmur, similar to that of a tempest when it begins to agitate the sea, was heard among them. The countenances of the soldiers and citizens were marked with indignation; their hearts were inflamed with rage: the names of Romulus and Hersilia were pronounced with imprecations. A general cry was soon after heard, and the Sabines in a body presented themselves before Numa. Give us revenge, they exclaimed, for Tatius and his daughter; they have been
mur-

murdered by Romulus : lead us immediately against that barbarous king; both nature and religion demand your compliance. Let us march directly to Rome, and destroy that impious city, which has ever been so baneful to the Sabines.

The virtuous Numa, thus urged by the people, shocked at the inhuman death of Tatia, and impelled by that just horror which iniquity never fails to inspire in the breast of innocence, forgot that the punishment of kings belongs to the gods alone ; and, in the first transports of his resistless indignation, marched, at the head of his Sabines, to the gates of Rome.

Romulus was provided against this storm. Informed that, notwithstanding his prohibition, Numa would fulfil his solemn engagement ; excited by the cruel Herfilia ; desirous of revenging

ing at the same time his daughter and his despised authority, he had caused a deadly poison to be mixed with the nourishment which the amiable Tatia had been persuaded to take. Thus one crime springs from another; and every iniquitous action leads to others still more atrocious. Dreading a sedition, Romulus was absent from his colleague's funeral, that he might put the city in a state of security. The gates were already shut, and the walls armed with soldiers. The inhuman Romulus had invented a rampart, still more formidable to repel the invaders: he caused the wives, children, and aged Sabines, who were unable to follow the body of their king, to be placed upon the walls before his soldiers; and in this situation he waited for the attack.

Led

Led on by their rage, the revolvers arrived, and, brandishing their javelins, cried aloud for vengeance. But they were stopped by their fears, on seeing that they must destroy the objects of their tenderest affection before they could reach the soldiers of their perfidious enemy. Their exclamations were in a moment succeeded by a profound silence. With their arms extended, they remained without either speech or motion; and their weapons fell useless from their hands.

This scene restored Numa to himself. He saw the extent of those calamities, which his enterprize would produce; he trembled at the ruin to which he had permitted the Sabines to be exposed; and, rushing into the midst of them; My friends, he cried, cease from vengeance; it

will cost our hearts too dear a purchase. Preserve your fathers, and your children; this duty is more sacred than that of revenging kings. Could you be guilty of parricide from a regard for Tatius? Are those venerable seniors, and those affectionate mothers, the victims which you would send him to the shades below? Alas, you who knew him well, judge if his shade can be consoled with such an offering! Oh Sabines, Sabines, in every other contest it would be glorious to conquer; in the present it is an honour to be vanquished. Go forth, Metius, with an olive-branch, and gain admittance to the king of Rome; say, that thou art come to give him security for the submission of the Sabines; say, that they are ready to deliver hostages for their fidelity, and to acknowledge him
him

him for their only sovereign, provided he will swear to pardon their rebellion. If he demand a victim, it is already prepared; and shall be no other than myself. I alone will be accountable for the revolt of the Sabine people; I alone will be excepted from the general amnesty. Fly, be speedy, lose not a moment; sign the peace; if requisite, let my life be the price of tranquillity: I shall be happy in perishing for the safety of my people.

Thus spoke Numa. Metius attempted to reply, but he refused to hear him, and pressed him to hasten immediately to the walls of Rome. He arrived there, and the gates were opened to receive him; and he soon returned to announce peace and pardon, on condition that Numa should

that instant depart from the territories of Romulus.

Against this sentence the Sabines exclaimed, and wished to resume their arms. Numa soothed, conjured, commanded them to submit; and representing to himself the horrid calamities which he alone might occasion, threatened, if they refused the terms of peace, to sacrifice himself in their presence. He departed immediately with Metius, whom he embraced with the tenderest affection.

My worthy friend, said he, dry up your tears; this exile, which saves my nation, is requisite to my repose. Could I again have beheld Romulus? Could I have supported the presence of the cruel Herfilia, who was doubtless an accomplice in Tatia's murder? Alas, Metius, my heart is cured of a fatal passion which embittered my

my life; yet how long must my wounds still bleed? Oh my friend, it is the greatest misfortune, the most severe calamity, to be compelled to blush for feelings which we once cherished with fondness. Forgive my tears; they are the last sacrifice to love; what I shall shed hereafter shall be devoted to repentance. Collect, my dear Metius, I beseech thee, the ashes of our king and his unhappy daughter: associated with those of Tullus, they must repose together on my mother's tomb. Promise that thou wilt thyself carry them thither, and not trust to another a duty, of which Numa envies thee the execution. Adieu, my venerable friend; may the gods prolong thy life to the utmost limit of mortality! Remember that thou art the sole remaining support of the Sabine people: their

worthy monarch is no more, Tatia is taken from them, Numa is going into distant exile; for these losses, Metius must be their consolation. To thy care I commend them; and hope on some day to thank thee for thy paternal kindness.

He spoke. Metius in vain requested to follow him, and to share his fortune. Provide for the people's welfare, said Numa, who are always too forgetful of themselves. On saying this, he hastily departed, and pursued his journey towards the country of the Marfi.

He was now travelling in the same path, in which a few months before he had marched, clad in armour, at the head of the Sabines, intoxicated with love, animated with the desire of becoming a hero, and trusting that glory was the road to happiness. He had
reaped

reaped the harvest of fame which he expected. Yet he was now unattended, exiled, overwhelmed with sorrow, flying from a king whom he had essentially served, ashamed of his daughter whom he had loved to distraction, and compelled to seek an asylum among a people whom he had conquered.

When he had advanced beyond the limits of Romulus's empire, he felt his mind relieved of an oppressive load. As he approached Vitellia, he entered a valley watered by a limpid river, whose banks were covered with willows and poplars. He followed its course, and soon arrived at the foot of a hill, where he discovered a deep grotto.

Attracted by the noise of a waterfall, from which the river derived its source, he entered the grotto.

How great was his surprize to discover a young warrior, covered with a lion's skin, asleep upon his club! Numa approached nearer, and knew him: it was the brave Leo, of whom he was going in search to the country of the Marfi; whose courage he had already tried, and whose friendship he intended to experience.

Leo awaking beheld Numa, and threw himself into his arms. The two heroes embraced with the tenderest affection. They both at the same moment exclaimed, O my friend! I was going to seek thee. Wert thou coming to Rome? interrupted Numa. Yes, answered Leo, with an air of frankness and joy: I am banished; I am destitute of an asylum; I was going to beg of my conqueror to afford me a retreat.

Talk

Talk not of conqueror, said Numa, let us confirm only our affection. Fortune seems desirous of tying the knot of our friendship still closer, by allotting to us the same trials. I am an exile like thyself; and was on my journey to thee to request protection. Thou mayest remember what I performed for the inhuman Romulus; to me alone he was indebted for the safety of himself and his army; as a reward for my services, he has caused to be assassinated my father and my king; the daughter of Tatius he has killed by poison; and should I presume to appear at Rome, I must either deluge it with blood, or fall myself by the hand of the executioner. Behold, my friend, the justice of kings, and the reward which they bestow on men who have promoted their interest.

Numa,

Numa, answered Leo, I have served republicans; thou hast seen me in their cause carry on a war; thou hast not perhaps forgotten the Roman camp in flames, and the capture of Auxencia. The Marfi, however, have erased from their memories every other enterprize, except that at the Trebanian mountains. When peace was signed, and the army had returned home, the proud senate, who had entrusted me with the command, summoned me to appear before it, to account for my conduct. They deposed with ignominy the aged Sophanor; they have driven me from their country, for having been deceived by the stratagem of Romulus, and for suffering the army to be taken in the snare which thou hadst spread. Such, my friend, is republican justice; or rather such is the justice of mankind:

kind : they are all ungrateful ; all unworthy. Yet it is still our duty to do them service, in order to please the gods, and to satisfy our own minds.

That duty, said Numa, we have both performed ; we have shed our blood for our country. It has cast us out ; it has restored to us the right of living for ourselves. Let us repair, Leo, to some desert in the Apennines : the earth, much more grateful than man, we will clear and cultivate ; we will live at a distance from the world ; and friendship will furnish the only pleasures worthy the enjoyment of a superior understanding.

While he spoke these words, his eyes sparkled with animation, and Leo embraced him with tears of joy. Yes, said he, I will follow thee ; we will part no more ; I will devote to thee
my

my heart and my life. Love has too long filled my days with sadness; it is time to cultivate the lasting pleasures of friendship.

O heavens! exclaimed Numa, dost thou speak of love! hast thou known its torments? Is there no one whose days it has not embittered? Hear the calamities which I have known, and communicate in thy turn those of a friend, without whom I am convinced my future life must be a burden.

The brave Leo listened to Numa's history, from his birth to the present moment, with the most anxious attention.

This recital, over which candour and modesty presided, was highly pleasing to Leo, and attached him still more to the amiable friend whom his heart had chosen. He wept for the death of Tullus, and for that of
the

the worthy Sabine monarch; and, viewing the conduct of Romulus with abhorrence, he congratulated Numa on his conquest over his passion for the unrelenting Herfilia.

My friend, said he, thy sacrifice has been painful; thou wert compelled to choose between love and virtue: thou hast given virtue the preference; thou art an exile, a wanderer, a fugitive, without an asylum, still dragging the arrow which hath pierced thy heart. But let me ask thee; hadst thou neglected thy oath, hadst thou treated with contempt the ashes of Tatius, hadst thou become the husband of Herfilia, wert thou seated on a throne with the object of thy affection; would not remorse possess thy heart? Would not the son-in-law of Romulus, the heir of his power, the possessor of a beloved mistress,

tress, experience more unhappiness and torment, than Numa virtuous and in exile? Oh Numa, I am myself in a similar situation; for heaven, which has created us for each other, seems to have formed a resemblance both between our misfortunes and our minds: I have sacrificed every thing to my duty: I have lost objects of value and importance; but, united together, their worth cannot be compared with that peace and tranquillity, which I carry constantly in my bosom. My heart resembles in purity the source of that limpid stream; and this is the first requisite for happiness: the second is to possess a friend; and from this day I have found that treasure. Listen to the recital of my adventures; may they inspire in thee the same

same tender concern which I have felt at thy affecting narrative !

At these words, Numa again embraced his worthy friend ; and the Marlian hero began the history of his life.

END OF THE SEVENTH BOOK.

NUMA

NUMA POMPILIUS.

ARGUMENT.

BOOK VIII.

Leo relates the history of his earliest youth; his affection for his mother Myrtale; his passion for Camilla; the sacrifice of his passion; Myrtale's instructions to him on her death-bed. Numa wishes to follow Leo to his ancient cottage. They wander among the Apennines. Numa meets an old man and his daughter. He sees them worship the fire.

I WAS born in the Apennines within the territories of the Marfi. My mother poor and infirm, possessed no other property than a flock of sheep, a cottage and a garden. Her name was Myrtale; a few months after I was born she lost her husband; I was beloved by her with that affection—

fection which a mother only can experience.

From my earliest years, covered with the skin of a wolf, which Myrtale had fitted to my shape, armed with a little javelin, which I already knew how to use, I went to guard my mother's flock, attended always by two fierce dogs, who were willing to defend the sheep and the shepherd. I was not afraid of beasts of prey; I was anxious on the contrary to exercise against them my youthful courage. I climbed the steepest rocks; I swam the most rapid torrents, that I might catch by surprize young kids, I ascended the tops of pines to rob the doves nests of their young. These were for my mother: her idea made every attempt easy; and when I reflected that delicate food

might prolong her days, or establish her health, I was more happy in conquering doves, than a monarch can be in gaining provinces.

In the evening I used to bring back the sheep to our cottage; and with the most heart-felt joy, I exhibited at a distance the doves or the fawn which I brought in triumph. My mother tenderly reproached me, threatened, while she embraced me, that I must be confined at home, refused sometimes my presents, or accepted them only on condition of my promising that I would not again expose my life.

My dear child, she would say, why am I unable to follow thee to the mountains? I should dread no danger which I might share with thee. But feeble, languishing, confined by pain to this cottage, which appears
so

so widely desolate when thou art absent, my heart and my thoughts are ever thy companions; judge then of the anxious terrors which I feel. Sometimes I see thee suspended on the pointed top of a lofty pine, and the whole tree to my imagination seems too weak for thy support. Sometimes I see thee leap a torrent; thy foot alights on a slippery stone, thou stretchest out thy hands in vain, and the foaming stream swallows thee up for ever. My dearest son, let the care of our flock content thee; the milk of our sheep, the vegetables of our garden, are sufficient for our food. Deprive not the hinds and the turtle doves of their beloved offspring, lest the wild boars and bears rob me in their turn of mine. Alas! promise me at least that thou wilt never enter the caves where those savage animals conceal

their young. Swear, my dearest Leo, if not for thy sake, for thy mother's peace. Remember that I live only for thee; and that whenever thou shalt exceed an hour the time of thy accustomed return, thou wilt find thy mother expiring with disquietude and sorrow.

In such language did Myrtale express her anxiety. I soothed her with caresses; I promised to avoid the dangers which she dreaded; she then pressed me to her bosom, begged me to give her the history of my day's exploits, and in her turn, while she prepared our repast, related to me the adventures of her youth. Our evenings passed away rapidly in this pleasing conversation. Before she retired to sleep, my mother always prepared my provision for the morrow, repeated her admonitions
that

that I should be cautious, gave me numberless kisses, and carested my two faithful dogs, as if to bribe them to watch over and defend her son.

The rustic life which I led soon called forth and confirmed my strength. At an early age I became tall and robust. Even at fifteen I beheld the fiercest animals without terror; my javelin was then stained with their blood, but I concealed this from my mother. My dogs, who had been the defence of my childhood, were become old and infirm, and, in my turn, I became their protector. Tranquil and happy in the care of my flock, I added to my pleasures by the music of my flute, and by pursuing the wild inhabitants of the woods. My mother was the sole object of my affections. My only grief arose from observ-

serving that age rendered her every day more feeble and languid.

One day, while I was sitting on the summit of a rock, whence issued a cascade, which fell beneath at the distance of a hundred feet, with a tremendous noise, I perceived a stag, who, having been wounded with an arrow, came to throw himself into this torrent. Immediately after a young Amazon appeared, covered with a lion's skin, having a quiver on her shoulder and a bow in her hand, and, mounted on a beautiful courser, pressing forward with all possible speed after the wounded stag. Diana only could rival her in beauty. Her long black hair flowed in ringlets upon her shoulders: courage and animation sparkled in her eyes; yet the softness of her features was not thereby diminished. While I beheld her
with

with admiration, her fiery steed plunged into the torrent, and was carried down the rapid stream. In vain she endeavoured to guide him to the opposite bank; the dashing waves opposed her passage. Her horse was soon carried from under her, down the torrent; and she herself immediately vanished from my sight.

I was already surrounded by the waves. I swam for some time without discovering the object whom I wished to rescue; at length I caught her by the hair, and dragged her, apparently lifeless, to the shore. Despairing of her recovery, I carried her home; where the care of my mother restored her at last to life. Alas! her eyes, replete with beauty and softness, kindled in my breast a flame which no time can extinguish. I presumed to contemplate that celest-

tial beauty, whom a pallid faintness rendered still more affecting, and I experienced an agitation and anxiety with which I had previously been unacquainted. Notwithstanding the pain I experienced, I could find no satiety in beholding her, I remained close by her side fixed and immovable; when, on recovering her speech, she returned me thanks, I blushed and stammered; and when she asked me my name, my mother was obliged to answer.

After some hours repose, this beautiful Amazon, without explanation, prepared for her departure. She offered my mother money; but on seeing our disapprobation at such a recompence, she withheld her present, and took a valuable chain off her neck and put it on that of Myrtale. Then beholding me with grate-

grateful affection, she took off her lion's skin, which covered a purple robe, and presented it to me with these words ; This was worn by the great Alcides : he presented it to my grandfather, as a recompence for the hospitality he had received. I imitate Hercules in bestowing it on the preserver of my life. If I may believe the presage of my mind, this tremendous covering of the son of Jupiter, will not fall into unworthy hands.

Having thus spoken, she embraced my mother, cast on me a glance of tenderness, but forbade me to follow her, and departed with precipitation.

My mother and I gazed upon each other. The situation in which we had seen her could alone persuade us that the fair stranger was not a divinity. Motionless with surprize and
admi-

admiration, I contemplated the lion's skin, still dripping with the water in which it had been immerfed. That a demi-god had once poffeffed it did not on reflection afford me fo much pleasure as I derived from having feen it on the fhoulders of the Amazon. All her features and actions were engraved on my foul; her words refounded in my ears; for the firft time in my life I became thoughtful and referved in my mother's fociety; and I concealed from her the fentiment which already occupied my heart.

Next day, at fun-rife, I tended my flock on the precipice which overhung the cascade: I was clad in the lion's fkin; from the moment my heart perceived its preffure, I imbibed new ftrength, invincible courage, and a confuming fire. The
ardour

ardour of this flame seemed to be augmented when I arrived at the spot where the beauteous Amazon was first presented to my view. I descended to the bank of the torrent; I sought the spot where I had saved her; I was delighted with sitting on the grass where I had placed her lifeless body. I sighed, and was agitated as I cast my eyes around me; and those mountains, that cascade, that beautiful prospect with which I had formerly been so much delighted, no longer captivated my attention. The rocks appeared to me replete with solitude and horror. My flock was neglected, my flute became troublesome, my javelin was forgotten: yet I could not depart from a situation which melancholy had so strongly endeared.

On

On returning home to my mother, I experienced no longer that mild tranquillity, which her society used always to inspire. The hours which I passed in the cottage appeared tedious; I scarcely returned an answer to her questions; I practised numberless methods of leading her to mention the unknown beauty; I dared not to speak of her myself; and the ornament which Myrtale wore round her neck attracted my constant attention. I embraced my mother more frequently, that I might have opportunities of impressing kisses on the chain.

Three days had already passed; every morning, at the earliest dawn, I repaired to the cascade; there I waited the sun's setting, with my eyes fixed on the path where the Amazon had first appeared. On the
fourth

fourth day I again saw her. She was mounted on a beauteous courser, in the same armour as before; and on perceiving me upon the rock her face was overspread with blushes.

I was soon near her. She leaped from her horse, tied him to a tree, sat down upon a rock; and inviting me to sit by her side, Brave shepherd, said she, I was almost certain I should find you; it is on your account that I am come hither. You have saved my life; I am anxious to render yours happy; this is the motive of my journey. Tell me then freely what is wanting to your happiness. What does your mother stand in need of? Be assured that my gratitude is excited to the highest pitch, and that my power is almost equal to my inclination.

I re-

I replied with downcast looks: Have you then, whom I know not how to address, who inspire in my breast that reverence which I have before experienced only for the immortal gods, have you deigned to remember a humble shepherd! Have you condescended for his sake to return hither? Alas! this goodness is far beyond the service which I afforded you; from this moment it is I who am bound to you by a debt of gratitude. You ask me what I want to make me happy: Before I saw you I wanted nothing. My mother and I have sufficient riches: we possess a cottage which defends us from the inclemencies of seasons, a garden which supplies our food, and a flock which affords us clothing. I often carry to the neighbouring villages the superfluity of our wool,
and

and sell lambs, which if kept would render our flock too numerous; and bring back the money which they produce, which is useless indeed to ourselves, but which gives exquisite pleasure in enabling us to relieve those, who, oppressed with age and sickness, come, from time to time, to request our beneficence. There is but one method by which you can render my days more delightful; it is that which you have now taken; your presence renders this day the brightest and most happy of my life.

The Amazon listened to me with an engaging smile. Well, replied she, since my presence is alone wanting to your felicity, I will sometimes visit you; gratitude compels me to it. But I will not inform you who I am: be satisfied that I am called
Ca-

Camilla ; and, whatever be the mystery of my birth, be assured, that it is a pleasure to Camilla to owe her life to Leo.

After these last words, expressed with an affectionate accent, she arose, untied her courser, leaped upon his back, gave me a look, and disappeared.

I remained intoxicated with joy. The kind concern which she had shewn me, the glance which she gave me at her departure, the promise of her return, all transported and inflamed my heart. I repeated Camilla's name ; I taught it to every echo among the mountains ; I wished to engrave it on the bark of every tree. Camilla alone filled my mind ; I saw only Camilla in the wide range of nature.

From

From that moment sadness and discontent were no more : the desarts appeared to me enchanted regions : the trees, the rocks, the cascade, all in my eyes were clad in new charms, and embellished by my love with unspeakable attractions. It seemed to me that nature had collected together all her beauties in that delicious solitude : I dreaded lest others should dispute with me its possession ; I would willingly have concealed it from the view of all mankind. My cottage assumed a gayer aspect. I returned to the society of my mother with more pleasure than I had ever before experienced. Our embraces were more warm, our conversation more affectionate and pleasing.

Camilla kept her word ; in two days she returned. How rapid were the moments in which I was indulged

with her society! The confession of my love was perpetually ready to escape from me, and always expired upon my lips. When I gazed upon Camilla, I was on the point of declaring my passion; but when she cast her eyes on me, respect restrained my utterance.

Camilla soon came every day to the cascade. Without having confessed that I loved her, without having heard her say that she returned my passion, our conversation was that of two enraptured lovers. Before we parted, the moment of our next interview was always settled, and we were both sure to arrive before the time. With what joy did we meet again! With what pleasure did we recount to each other the thoughts which we had indulged in absence! Camilla spoke on no other subject than me; and she

was

was the only topic on which I dwelled. Our conversation was continually the same, and yet appeared to us to be always new.

Her birth was the only circumstance which Camilla concealed from Leo. Of what consequence is my rank, she would say, if thou art well acquainted with my heart? If it contains not a sentiment which is not laid open to thy view?

The amiable Camilla was occupied in polishing and cultivating my mind. From the stores of her own knowledge, she communicated to me instruction: she related the reign of Janus, the expedition of the Argonauts, the sieges of Thebes and Troy; she taught me to repeat verses from Hesiod and from Homer. How perfectly were her lessons fixed in my memory! Whatever proceeded from

her lips was engraved on my mind; what Camilla had spoken once, I was unable ever after to forget. What delight did I experience in listening to her conversation! How was my soul inflamed at the exploits of Achilles! And when I contemplated Venus, as portrayed by Homer, I found Camilla more beautiful.

Such was the tenour of my life. Every day was devoted to love, every evening to filial affection; since my passion for Camilla, far from weakening my regard for my mother, seemed to add to its force. My heart was not divided between Myrtale and Camilla, each of them possessed it entire; and it is doubtless designed by the gods as a peculiar favour, that the most violent love, when virtuous, gives additional activity to all the other virtues.

My

My felicity was of short duration. An entire day passed without the appearance of Camilla. On the next, half dead with apprehension, I waited with sighs for her arrival. She came, but her countenance was overspread with the most pallid dejection. My friend, she said, as she approached me, our happiness is no more; we must pay with our tears for the fleeting moments we have enjoyed. Till now I have concealed from thee my birth: I feared lest the knowledge of my rank should deprive me of thy affection; and I found a pleasure in keeping thee ignorant of my situation. But thou must at present be acquainted with it: know then, I have the misfortune to be the daughter of a king.

At this news, a cold sweat bedewed my body, my knees tottered, my tongue faltered, and I was

unable to utter a single word. Camilla took my hand, and made me sit down beside her; and, after endeavouring to dissipate the sudden alarm which I had experienced, she proceeded in the following terms :

My father is king of the Vestini. From hence to Cingilia, the capital of his dominions, is but a short distance; a fondness for the chase is the pretext by which I have been able to pay thee a daily visit. I was in hopes of enjoying this happiness for a long period: but I am the only child of my father; his kingdom is to be my portion, and all the princes of Italy have already solicited my hand in marriage. Two monarchs threaten us with hostilities, if I refuse making a speedy choice. One, king of the Marrucini, whose territories border
upon

upon ours, has been always our declared enemy. My marriage with his son, by extinguishing mutual animosity, would lay the foundation of a powerful state. Policy, reason, and humanity speak in favour of the prince of the Marrucini, who, from his earliest age, with no other attendant than a prudent tutor, hath traversed the isles of Greece to acquire the most perfect knowledge of the great art of government. And he is now on his return to his native country.

His greatest rival is Telemantus, king of the Salentines, whose power, riches, and noble origin (for he is descended from Telemachus and Antiope) give him an advantage over the prince of the Marrucini. But we have little dread of the Salentines, since they are situated at a great distance ;

tance ; and the ambassadors of Telemantus will find it difficult to prevail against the king of the Maruccini, who is come in person to my father's court, to solicit me for his son.

On either side the danger to me is equal, since I must renounce the liberty, which I would wish for ever to preserve, of loving thee with the most devoted affection. But thou, Leo, art best acquainted with the duty which is owing to a parent : mine is in the vale of years, and insufficient for his own defence ; he urges me to make a choice ; he conjures me not to provoke a war which he is unable to sustain, and which must terminate in the ruin of him and his people. Amidst such difficulties I ask thy advice how to proceed.

Ca-

Camilla, I replied, (for your rank and illustrious birth cannot inspire me with more respect than that dear appellation) a heart which knows how to love should sacrifice every thing to its passion; yet a virtuous heart ought to sacrifice love to its duty. My courage gives me sufficient assurance that I could defend your kingdom; that, armed with this club, and covered with the skin of the Nemean lion, I could repulse from your walls the Marrucini, the Salentines, and all the armies of Italy. But though I were the first of heroes, though my exploits rivalled those of Hercules, could I aspire to be your husband? No, you can never be mine! I exclaimed with a flood of tears; you are the daughter of a king, and I only am a wretched shepherd.—O
Ca-

Camilla ! Camilla ! how dearly must I purchase my imprudence !

Is my cause of grief less than thine ? interrupted Camilla ; are the pangs which rend my heart less poignant than those of which thou complainest ? Yet I still cherish a ray of hope ; I am well assured, that my kingdom, not myself, is what the king of the Marrucini wishes to obtain for his son. I will tell him the whole truth ; I will swear to resign to him my inheritance at my father's death, if he cease to urge me to make a choice, and be my protection against Telemantus. The hopes of reigning over two people will sooth his ambitious mind, and I shall think myself too happy in purchasing with a crown the delicious privilege of giving my heart to Leo.

In

In vain I opposed her resolution ; she left me, determined to sacrifice every thing to her passion. And I waited her return with the most painful impatience.

At the expiration of three days I saw her ; her countenance was clad in the most joyous smiles. We shall be happy ! she exclaimed, we shall be happy ! I have opened my heart to the king of the Marrucini, and told him, that thou art its only sovereign. He has been flattered by the confidence I have placed in him ; and the offer of my crown has secured him in our interest. Listen to his proposal. His son, who was returning from the isles of Greece alone, without his governor, has died in Crete ; as he travelled unknown, the world is ignorant of his death. After his governor had caused his
un-

unhappy father to be secretly informed of this melancholy event, he dared not appear in his presence, but is now in Dalmatia. The king of the Marrucini laments his son; but he regrets still more the loss of a marriage, which would secure the repose of his people, and double the extent of his dominions. Could his ambition be satisfied, his grief would be diminished; and to prevent my crown becoming the property of Telemantus there is but one expedient. Since he left it in his earliest infancy, the prince was unknown in his father's court; he is believed to be alive, and is every day expected to return; and the father has agreed to adopt thee in his place.

Let him set out immediately, said he, for Dalmatia, and carry to my son's governor my royal ring, and tablets

blets on which my commands shall be inscribed. Let him afterwards return with him; I shall receive him as my son; my people shall acknowledge him; you shall make choice of him for your husband; you shall be happy; and the peace of the two nations and my repose shall be the consequence of a deception which is no doubt pardonable, since it does injury to no one, and produces the good of many.

Such are the tidings which I bring thee! We shall be united, Leo; thou shalt reign over two kingdoms; we shall no more be parted; fortune and love shall conspire to ensure our happiness. How is it that thou art not overpowered with joy? That thou art not prostrate before the gods to thank them for thy fortune? With what coldness and melancholy

lancholy dost thou receive the assurance of thy felicity! How can thy future life be troubled with anxiety? On what art thou meditating?

On my mother, I replied. I must either lose you, or cause her who gave me life to die with sorrow. I appeal to yourself, to you whom I have seen ready to sacrifice our love to your father's tranquillity. Can I abandon Myrtale? Can I deprive her of the only support which she has left? We will load her with kindness, interrupted Camilla. But you will deprive her of her son, exclaimed I; you will compel him to cease acknowledging her for his mother! This idea alone fills me with horror. Be assured, Camilla, that the splendour of kingdoms, and every other worldly advantage cannot be put in competition with filial affection, which
is

is the first gift of nature, and the highest pleasure which our hearts can experience. I cannot consent to banish it from mine, nor even to pretend to send it into exile.

But this is not the only crime which I should commit in assuming the name of the prince of the Marucini. Should I by fraud obtain a nation's obedience! Should I by a lie become a king! If lawful monarchs have such important duties to fulfil, if they must account to the divinity for all the good which they have omitted, and for all the evil which they have allowed, how much more severe would be my trial, after having acquired a throne by treachery, instead of being called to it by the gods! Knowing myself to have stolen the rank which I should possess, every mark of homage which I might receive

ceive from the lowest of my subjects would seem to me a reproach for my falshood and deceit.

No, Camilla: you are doubtless the first of all the treasures of nature; heaven and my own heart bear witness, that I would relinquish my life to become your husband for a single day. Yet this happiness so exquisite, of which the idea alone bewilders my reason, would cease in my estimation to be happiness, if my conscience were not at peace. Happily for virtue, no pleasure can be truly enjoyed without that tranquillity which it alone is able to bestow: though seated on a throne with you, remorse would render me wretched; I wish rather that fortune should prove the cause of my unhappiness. Abandon me in this desert: it is full of you, and I shall be able to live here;
I shall

I shall lament your absence with perpetual tears; but I shall weep only for the loss of you; my virtue will remain untainted. Adieu, Camilla, return to your father's palace; forget me and my misfortunes; and may the pleasure which is felt by a great mind in discharging its duty, render you less sensible to that commiseration, which the remembrance of my unhappiness will be too apt to inspire.

On saying this, I cast my eyes upon the ground, and endeavoured to conceal my tears. Camilla heard me with attention, kept her eyes fixed upon me, and remained silent for some time. At length, seizing my hand, and pressing it closely, I adore thee, said she; and this instance of thy virtue augments if possible that boundless passion which thou hast in-

fused into my bosom. I applaud thy sentiments; and from this moment I resign all claim to thee for ever. Yes, I renounce thee; but with the most sacred oath, that I will carry with me to the tomb that affection which binds us to each other; thy image shall live in my heart while grief allows its palpitation: and if I fall a victim to sorrow, which I pray the gods may be my fate, I will bequeath thee my expiring sigh.

When she had thus spoken, she separated from me, mounted her courser, bade me farewell in broken accents, repeated it thrice with extended arms, set forward, returned again, with eyes overflowing with tears, to behold once more the rock, the cascade, and the spot where we had so often conversed together; she
seemed

seemed thus to bid them an affectionate adieu. Then after glancing on me a parting look replete with tenderness and sorrow, she instantly disappeared. —Since that fatal day, my friend, I have never beheld Camilla.

Leo was here obliged to pause: tears flowed copiously down his cheeks; and grief pressed heavily upon him. Numa embraced him with the tenderest affection; and the two heroes remained for some time locked in each others arms, without uttering a single word. At length Leo attempted to subdue his anguish, and thus continued his recital:

I was anxious to conceal from my mother the sacrifice which I had made: a knowledge of it could not increase her affection, and might augment her disquietude. I exerted every endeavour to keep her a stran-

ger to my grief. I passed my days in tears upon the rock, where I had first seen Camilla; as soon as I returned to the cottage, I forced myself to assume a serene aspect; and when I found that I could not conceal my sadness from the penetrating eyes of my mother, I invented some cause for my melancholy, which would not be too afflicting to her, and for which she could afford me consolation.

Two months passed away, without any tidings of Camilla, without my calamities being less painful than they were at first. Alas! the measure of my woes soon abundantly overflowed. My mother fell ill; I searched the mountains for herbs to her relief. But her hour was arrived: she perceived it approaching; and calling to me with feeble accents, addressed me in the following

ing words, which seem still to vibrate in my ears. I have deceived thee, Leo, I am not thy mother. On the bed of death, I beseech thee to forgive a deception, which has constituted the happiness of my life. Compelled to abandon my cottage to escape from the cruel Pelignians, who then waged war against us, I arrived on the banks of the river Aternus, at the village of Avia, which those barbarians had just destroyed by fire: amidst the horrid ruins which slaughter and the flames had left, among heaps of dead bodies, I perceived thee lying in a cradle, pale, covered with blood, and pierced with a poignard, which still remained in thy bosom. Thy beauty captivated my attention; I placed my hand upon thy heart, and found that it still throbbed. I removed thee from this scene of

horror; I healed thy wound; I became the support of thy tender infancy: thou gavest me the name of mother; and I was never able to renounce that delightful appellation. He will desert me, I used to say, should he know that he is not my son: I am ignorant who are his parents, they could not however love him more than I do; let this error continue, which, without rendering him unhappy, chiefly supports my existence. Such was the motive of my silence. Pardon my weakness: thou, my dear son, didst regard me with so much tenderness, as to render a confession impossible, which might deprive me of thy affection.

At these words, I clasped her in my arms, and wept in her bosom. My dear son, said she, we must part: dry up thy tears; they increase the cruelty

cruelty of our separation. Thou must be consoled by reflecting that I have owed my happiness to thee; remember that it is by thee alone that my days have been prolonged. With what pleasure could I relinquish the light of life, were I certain that futurity had in store for thee only peace and felicity. Hitherto I have been alarmed lest thy true mother should come and claim thee: now the hand of death is upon me, I wish I could restore thee to her. Take this precious stone, on which a name is engraved in characters which I have never been able to decypher. When I saved thy life, this stone hung suspended at thy neck. I have concealed it till this moment: may it serve to discover thy happy mother! Shouldst thou ever see her, say how much I envied her the honour

of being thy parent ; tell her that my fondness rendered me perhaps not unworthy of that delightful privilege ; and may you both forgive me for assuming a right so pleasing. Adieu, my dear son, permit me still to use that tender appellation. Come near me : let thy hand close my eyes, and before I expire, let me hear thee once more call me by the fond name of mother.

O my mother ! I exclaimed, my beloved mother ! I am ever thy son, and will remain so to the latest moment of my life : it is in vain—— She was already no more ; already the merciless tyrant death was in possession of his prey.

I will not attempt to describe my affliction : our hearts, Numa, bear a resemblance to each other, and thou hast not forgot thy own sufferings at
the

the death of Tullus. I constructed a simple pile on which the body of Myrtale was consumed. With my own hands I made an urn, in which I collected her ashes; I buried it in a tomb of turf, which I raised at a short distance from my cottage; and I inscribed on a stone which covered it: HERE RESTS MYRTALE. PASSENGER, IF THOU DIDST EVER LOVE THY MOTHER, THINK ON HER, AND HERE WEEP HER LOSS. Then deserting my cottage and my flock, I departed from these mountains, and involuntarily directed my steps towards the capital of the Vestini.

When I arrived in Cingilia, I was informed that the beautiful Camilla, after a long resistance to her father's will, had consented at last to marry the king of the Salentines, and that she had embarked with the ambassadors

dors of that monarch. Being violently agitated by this news, as if it had been entirely unexpected, I reascended the Apennines with precipitation. Wandering without any fixed design, I arrived at the Marfian camp when the army were on the point of electing a general. That martial spectacle inspired me with the love of fame; I determined either to perish, or to become a hero. I offered myself a candidate for the command; and by a happy chance succeeded. Thou art acquainted with my conduct in the war, and thou seest the reward of my services.

Leo here finished his recital. During his narrative Numa regarded him with a fixed attention. Every sentiment penetrated his soul. When Leo described his tender infancy, and his affection for his mother, Numa's
coun-

countenance was brightened by a smile of approbation; when he mentioned his love for Camilla, Numa's cheeks were bedewed with tears.

The sun was now hastening to repose in the bosom of Thetis, when the two friends resolved to pass the night under the covering of the grotto. They gathered some fruit from the trees in the valley, and were preparing to retire to rest. Our journey is finished, said Numa, since we have found each other. We will determine to-morrow whither to direct our steps. I have some desire to visit Greece, in order to gain a knowledge of the manners of different nations, and by that study to improve in wisdom and in virtue.

My friend, replied Leo, were mankind really virtuous, our knowledge of them would doubtless be our own improve-

improvement, and I should then say,
Let us traverse the world; by our industrious researches we shall become both wiser and better. But what can we see in Greece? What can we gain by visiting other countries? We shall behold only kingdoms composed of slaves, and governed by tyrants; republics harrassed by factions, whose subjects, as a proof of their freedom, murder each other without mercy; some illustrious characters in disgrace or exile, by whom the loss of their country is less regretted, than that of the honours which they once possessed; philosophers who are called wise, whose lives are busy with vain questions which they do not themselves understand; in a word, we shall behold universally, mankind oppressed, virtue neglected, ambition or vanity governing even those with despo-

despotic sway who are most the objects of admiration. What therefore, shall we gain by our travels? Our morals perhaps will be endangered. It is a false notion to suppose, that the Creator of the universe has allowed man to obtain wisdom only by traversing foreign countries, and that it is necessary to consume the best part of life in laborious acquisitions for an uncertain old age: he has given us in our nature a code of laws for our conduct, and a judge to decide on our behaviour. Conscience is destined for these important purposes. Let us live in peace with it, and we shall be sufficiently instructed.

Let us then, said Numa, continue in Italy, let us proceed to thy mountains, inhabit thy cottage, and resume thy flock. I will labour for thee,
guard

guard thy sheep, and weep with thee over the tomb of Myrtale; we will talk together of Camilla by the side of that cascade with which I am already acquainted; and if in this retreat maternal tenderness has already afforded thee days of happiness, the consolation of friendship may perhaps be able to soften thy disquietude.

He spoke. Leo embraced him; and they set forward on their expedition. They traversed in its full extent the country of the Æqui; they passed the rapid Tolonius, pervaded the Albenian forests, and at length reached the Apennines.

Since the chase was their only resource for food, they wandered in pursuit of the wild inhabitants of the woods. They ascended the steepest rocks, they penetrated the most dangerous

gerous recesses, and discovered at last a delightful valley, watered by numerous springs which descended from a range of inaccessible mountains with which it was surrounded. The banks of these rivulets were adorned with linden-trees, beeches, olives, elms encircled with vines, and other fruit-trees of various kinds. A delightful meadow, covered with numberless flowers, extended on all sides in a beautifully enamelled plain. Peace and plenty were every where to be seen: the sky was serene, the rivulets were transparent; silence was interrupted only by the melody of birds and the murmur of streams, and the winged choristers seemed to vie with each other in celebrating the happiness they enjoyed.

Delighted with this scene, the two friends hastened to descend into the valley.

valley. In contemplating the beauties of nature they enjoyed the purest pleasure which the gods have granted to mankind; they followed the course of the principal rivulet without perceiving the footsteps of any human being. The rivulet at length branched out into two streams. After agreeing to meet at the place of their separation, they parted, each determining to pursue different courses of the divided channel.

Leo proceeded to a considerable distance, and met no other objects than trees, flowers, and fruits.

Numa, more fortunate, perceived an untended flock, contiguous to a little copse of laurels. He entered the wood with deliberate steps, looked around, and discovered under an arbour of wild jasmine, a young woman clothed in white, and seated on a grassy bank.

She

She seemed completely occupied with a book, which rested on her knees. Her flaxen hair, which covered her head and shoulders, was moved gently by the zephyrs, and exposed a countenance the most beautiful to the eyes of Numa. Yet her features derived their principal charm from a candour and openness of mind with which they were adorned. They seemed to express the serenity and the peace of virtue; a celestial emanation appeared to repel every voluptuous sentiment, and to fill the mind with ideas pure and delightful; a sacred reverence was inspired, more affectionate and more animated than desire itself.

Numa beheld her without either surprize or anxiety; his heart throbbed with no increase of palpitation; he experienced a mild satisfaction,

by which his reason was undisturbed; the idea of love was distant from his imagination. He mistook not the shepherdes for a divinity; his senses, in a state of tranquillity, did not deceive him by exaggeration; in beholding only what was real, he considered her as the most beautiful of her sex, and believed her to be the most virtuous.

He silently advanced towards her, and endeavoured to examine the book which she was reading; but with the characters he was unacquainted. He retired cautiously; and from his place of concealment saw a venerable old man approach, leaning on a knotted stick; his white hair which overhung his forehead, his long beard descending to his breast, his visage furrowed with wrinkles, preserved an air of grandeur, which anxiety and
age

age had been unable to efface. My daughter, said he, behold the sun is setting; let us fulfil the precepts of our sacred law. At these words, the shepherdes arose, and discovered to Numa her majestic figure. She cast her beautiful blue eyes upon her father; she stretched out to him her hand with a benignant smile; and he, leaning upon her arm, returned with slow steps towards a cottage, situated in the most retired recesses of the wood.

Not daring to follow, Numa watched them with attention. They washed their hands in a pure spring; afterwards entered the cottage, and in a short time the old man appeared in a different habit from that which he had previously worn. His long robe was changed for a short tunic. A girdle, composed of many cords, was fastened round

his waist; his face was half veiled. He held a brazen vase in his hand, from which a flame issued: and placed this respectfully on a polished stone. His daughter followed, carrying perfumes, roots, and a light faggot of dry sticks. On their knees, they cast these offerings into the fire, stirred it with instruments of gold, and uttered a prayer in an unknown language.

The old man soon after rose from the ground, and carried back the vase with an equal reverence. The young shepherdes collected her flock, which was dispersed over the meadow, penned it in a fold of hurdles, and returned to her father, while Numa, full of surprize and joy, hastened to re-join Leo.

END OF THE EIGHTH BOOK.

NUMA

NUMA POMPILIUS.

A R G U M E N T.

B O O K IX.

Numa and Leo are received by the old man. They admire his daughter Anais, and leave the cottage with regret. Leo revisits his former habitation. He meets Camilla. The joy of these two lovers. Camilla relates her adventures. She is married to Leo. They set out with Numa to pay a visit to the old man. Numa preserves Anais and her father from robbers. He is wounded. The history of Zoroaster. Leo becomes acquainted with his father.

NUMA returned to his friend, and related what he had seen. He conducted him towards the cottage; they arrived, and knocked at the door. The young shepherdess opened it, and beheld them with apprehension. Take courage, said Leo, we mean not to disturb your quiet:

allow us to continue with you till to-morrow's dawn, when, after thanking the gods for your kindness, we will resume our journey.

At these words, she introduced them to her father. He was seated on the floor upon a matted bed, holding in his hands the distaff and spindles which his daughter had just left. A few clumsy chairs, a rickety table, some wooden vessels suspended by the handles, and a lyre of ebony, were all the riches of this humble dwelling.

The sage no sooner perceived his guests, than he arose, and invited them to repose under his roof. Anais, said he to his daughter, prepare some lukewarm water, and get ready for our visitors our best repast. She modestly obeyed, kindled a fire, brought a brazen pot, filled it with

wa-

water, and, while it was heating, hastened to the orchard.

She soon returned with grapes, olives, and other fruits, together with a honeycomb and some flowers. With these she ornamented the fruit, brought beechen cups, filled an earthen vessel with new wine, and pouring lukewarm water into a wooden bowl, presented it to her father. Notwithstanding the earnest refusal of his guests, he obliged them to allow him to wash their feet, and afterwards sat down at table with them.

The emotion which the two heroes experienced scarce allowed them the power of thanking him for his kindness. Numa kept his eyes fixed upon Anais, admired her beauty, her simple elegance, and her gentle and frank politeness; but he was most delighted with her filial af-

fection, and with her amiable candour, which was visible, without affectation, in her most trivial actions. Oh! said Numa to himself, how happy should I be, were I the brother of this charming creature! His respect for Anais allowed him not to indulge further desire.

Leo was more captivated with the old man than with his daughter; he perceived himself drawn towards him by a secret charm, with whose origin he was unacquainted: his white hair, his venerable countenance, where at the same time were visible the traces of misfortune and of virtue; that noble gravity of deportment destitute of all severity, conspired to excite in the breast of Leo a reverence mingled with affection. The old man in return fixed his feeble eyes attentively upon Leo. He transferred his regard
alter-

alternately from him to Anais, and seemed to compare their features. Amidst this contemplation he sighed, dropped the fruit from his hand, and hastily wiped away the tears with which his eyes overflowed, that he might again behold the Marlian hero.

Anais, who was never without attending to her father, perceived his emotion: attributing it to his recollection of past sorrows, she took her lyre to divert his attention. Her delicate fingers soon tuned its strings to harmony; her sweet and affecting voice captivated attention: Numa, Leo, and even her aged parent, listened to her with rapture.

She sung how the world was called into existence by the word of Oromades; how the sun was kindled by
his

his breath to fertilize the earth, to produce harvests, trees, plants, and every wholesome vegetable ; how man was created pure and immortal, and how he fell from that happy state, corrupted by Arimanius, the author of all the evil which has appeared in the universe ; this enemy of mankind, who is of equal antiquity with Orosmades, poisoned the sources of happiness, by mixing numberless ills with the bounteous gifts of the Supreme Being ; at length the legislator was sent from heaven to combat and conquer Arimanius, to support fallen man, to recal him to true worship, and to revive in his soul that principle of virtue which vice had extinguished.

At this passage the old man cast his eyes upon Anais : she pronounced not the legislator's name.

Numa

Numa and Leo looked at each other, admired the wonders they had heard, and discovered that some of the tenets she had mentioned had a reference to their own religion. But they were most astonished at that affecting simplicity, and that sublime morality which Anais had mingled with her recital: the softness of her voice, the strength of her memory, her modest deportment augmented the pleasure of her hearers. Numa fancied himself transported into the society of the gods; he thought he heard Minerva announcing new mysteries to mankind.

The travellers at length retired to sleep; and on the morrow at sunrise prepared for their departure. A secret sympathy and affection made them regret the loss they were going to suffer; they would willingly have
passed

passed their lives in this cottage : Anais and her father would gladly have wished the same. She ran to the orchard to gather some fruit for Numa ; the old man obliged Leo to accept of some wine in a leathern bottle. They informed the travellers of the way by which their journey would be rendered easiest ; they begged them earnestly to return again to the valley. Numa and Leo promised to comply, and at last set forward with heavy hearts.

Without uttering a word, they frequently turned to look towards the cottage, which they had left with such regret. Each in silence recalled to his memory all that he had seen and heard : that unknown religion, some of whose mysteries had been sung by Anais, that prayer before the fire expressed in sacred language, confound-
ed

ed their ideas, and puzzled their conjectures. Leo was astonished at the secret impulse he felt for a stranger, who seemed not to have been born in Italy; Numa cherished in his bosom an affection for Anais, more ardent than love itself.

The latter at length broke silence, and proposed to his friend to return, and fix their dwelling near that of Anais. Leo was equally anxious to embrace this proposal; but had a previous desire to revisit his ancient cottage, and to weep once more over the tomb of Myrtale. Numa respectfully complied with his wishes. The agitation which they experienced recalled to their remembrance gloomy ideas: Leo mentioned Camilla; Numa compared Hersilia with the modest Anais. A tender melancholy took possession of both; they wept, and afforded

ed to each other mutual consolation. Such are the delights of friendship, which mingles a soothing balm with the griefs which it participates, and which even from pain extracts pleasure !

At the end of three days Leo discovered his cottage. On beholding it, he stopped, and his strength failed him. Supported by Numa he, however, soon advanced ; and every tree, place, and object inspired a pleasing recollection. Here he had played with Myrtale, and listened to her instruction ; there he had planted flowers intended as a present for his mother : every thing reminded him of former affection, or of past felicity. His overflowing eyes could not be satiated with beholding objects which they had seen so often. The air which he breathed was oppressive, his ideas were

were burthenſome, his heart was heavy, and yet this ſorrow contained in his eſtimation a ſecret delight.

As he approached the door, he fell proſtrate on the ground; afterwards lifting up his hands, he addreſſed the following words to the rural deities: Ye nymphs and naiads who protected my infancy, and whom I reviſit with ſuch joy, deign to accept this teſtimony of my veneration; be ſatiſfied at preſent with the affectionate vows which I pay you; you ſhall ſoon ſhare the libations of milk which I will offer at the tomb of my mother.

At theſe words, he aroſe, and entered his cottage. How great was his ſurprize to find it exactly in the ſtate in which he left it! Every thing was in order, and in its proper place. He examined his ancient javelins,

velins, his instruments of gardening, and the flute on which he first celebrated the charms of Camilla. He kissed this with the tenderest affection. But he deserted every object to repair to the tomb of Myrtale, and he found it adorned with fresh flowers; many which were blighted testified that some pious hand must have renewed them every day. Leo dropped on his knees, watered with his tears the verdant turf with which the tomb was covered, and blessed the unknown hand by whose care it was thus adorned. Numa, in silence at the side of his friend, shared all his thoughts and wishes.

Soon after Leo, stretching out his hand, pronounced the name of Camilla, as he led Numa towards the rock, and cascade so dear to his remembrance.

brance. He ran and arrived there ; and the first object which struck his view was Camilla herself upon the rock.

At this sight, Leo cried out, and hastened precipitately towards her. She turned her head ; but before they were able to meet, they were both deprived of their senses.

Numa immediately afforded his assistance, and they were restored to life. They had scarcely opened their eyes, when they sought and found each other. Is it Camilla, said Leo, whom I have so long lamented ? Ye immortal gods, if this be a dream, grant that the moment when I awake from it may conclude my being.

Camilla, the virtuous Camilla, pressed him to her bosom, assured him that his bliss was real. It is me, said she ; it is thy faithful mistress, whom

VOL. II.

I

nothing

nothing on earth shall now be able to tear from thee. I am thine for ever; I will hereafter live with the lord of my affections, with him who saved my life, and for whom alone I have thought it worthy of preservation.

At these words, she again embraced him, bid him wipe away his tears, smiled tenderly upon him, and her face, though bedewed with tears, was expressive of joy and happiness; resembling those gilded clouds which shed upon the flowers a gentle rain, while the sun, faintly eclipsed, pierces them with his rays, and still shines through the pearly drops which they distil.

After a few moments devoted to love and joy, Leo conducted his Camilla to the different scenes where they had been accustomed to converse on the subject of their mutual passion.

Here,

Here, said he, I wish to be informed of what has befallen you since our last interview. Speak before my friend ; he knows all our secrets, he reads my heart as intimately as I do myself ; and you will give him yours, when you are acquainted with his virtues.

Camilla cast on Numa a glance of the mildest complacency ; she seated herself between the two heroes, and thus gratified their impatient curiosity :

The gods have been propitious to me ; they have preserved me from nuptials which I dreaded more than dissolution. I however obeyed my father ; I preserved him from a war which he would have been unable to sustain. The king of the Marrucini had retired to his own country ; I was with the ambassadors of Telemantus on

board a vessel which that prince had sent for me. I need not acquaint Leo, with what ideas my mind was occupied. Our hearts sympathize too intimately to require a minute description of all they have suffered.

We were advancing with crowded sails towards the Salentian coast, and were off Metina, when the clouds gathered so thick over our heads as to deprive us of the light of heaven. All the winds conspired to elevate the foaming waves. The horrors of an universal night covered the ocean; lightning furrowed the clouds; on every side inevitable death was presented to our view.

Thou, Leo, solely occupied my thoughts; I blessed the gods, thanked the storm, and rejoiced at the idea of escaping from Telemantus. I wished every moment that our vessel might be
lost.

lost. That instant arrived. Officers, soldiers, and sailors, all were swallowed up by the waves. Camilla was immersed in the devouring ocean; but lost neither her courage nor her strength. I rose above the billows, and seizing part of the wreck, cherished the hope of still preserving myself for thee. Thus the sport of the winds and waves, in the midst of darkness, and in the jaws of death, I said, There is no cause for fear; for I am either sure to die, or to live for the sake of Leo.

Love doubtless watched over my fate. The sea by degrees grew calm; its waves as they chased each other drove towards the shore the plank to which I clung. At length I discovered land, and gained it. I fell on my knees, and thanked the gods, much less for being preserved from

I 3 death,

death, than for escaping from Telemantus. I looked round me, and saw a high range of mountains. I was informed by a husbandman that I was in Apulia, at the foot of the celebrated mount Garganus. He conducted me to his cottage; after three days rest I recovered some strength; the gold which I possessed provided me with a bow and arrows, and enabled me to reward the husbandman for his hospitality.

Alone, without any other resource than my bow, I became determined to reach the Apennines, and to visit thy cottage. The journey must inevitably be long, the paths in which I was to go were unknown: but thou wert the object of my pursuit, and no dangers could affright me. I set forward, without a guide or companion, travelling in the night to abridge my
expe-

expedition, passing rivers, climbing rocks, and not dreading to rouse from their dens beasts of prey. I fought by choice the darkest woods, and the most savage desarts, for fear of being met by some Salentian, who, like myself, had outlived the shipwreck.

My fears were but too well founded: on the frontiers of the country of the Samnites, within the territories of the Frentanians, at day break, as I was departing from a cave, where I had passed the night, I heard several human voices; I distinguished the name of Camilla. I was seized with terror; concealed in the cave I lent an attentive ear, and soon perceived that the voices proceeded from soldiers who had escaped the wreck; they talked of my death; and being without a leader, and at a distance from their country, were meditating robberies and plunder.

In this situation, I hardly dared to breathe : I resembled a timid fawn, which, as it lies concealed under some herbage, beholds a famished pack of hounds pass by. On leaving the cave, after the departure of the soldiers, I fell on my knees, and exclaimed, O Venus ! thou goddess who presideest over feeling hearts ; it is thou who hast preserved me from the waves, but of what value is thy kindness, while I am distant from the object of my adoration ! O brightest of immortal beings, remember the tears which love has made thee shed ; and thy heart will pity sorrows which it once has known. Direct my steps towards my lover, deign to inform me of the path which I ought to take. Queen of gods and men, if thou attendest to my petition, I swear to erect an altar to thee on that spot where I shall behold

behold Leo, and the most beautiful of his rams shall be offered up as a sacrifice.

On finishing these words, two doves gliding through the air, appeared before me. I accepted the happy preface; I observed the birds of Venus, and followed them with confidence. Without leaving me, they sometimes flew near the ground with rapid wing, sometimes rested on the grass for food, but they never disappeared altogether from my sight. After nine days journey, I discovered thy cottage at a distance; I saw the doves alight upon its roof. There they seemed to lament and coo disconsolately, and soon after taking flight, were no more visible.

Judge, Leo, of my joy. I expressed my gratitude to Venus, to the doves, to all the immortal gods. But I arrived at thy cottage, and found it deserted;

serted ; my eyes sought, my voice called thee in vain. I traversed with disquietude the neighbourhood of thy dwelling, and found only a cheerless solitude. I discovered a tomb, and knew by the inscription it was Myrtale's. Alas ! my friend, I became almost disconsolate at this sight. My hopes are ended, I exclaimed : he has doubtless gone in quest of me, will hear of my being shipwrecked, and will perish with grief.

This I believed and repeated every day ; and yet I every day visited the mountain in hopes of meeting thee. Should he live, I used to say, I am convinced he will return. He will come again to his mother's tomb, to the first asylum of our loves. Be he a king or a slave, provided he gains his freedom, he will hither direct his steps. I know that to these scenes,
endeared

endeared by filial affection, he will assuredly repair.

With this hope, I settled in thy cottage, collected thy flock, and took care of every thing which had been thine. My sorrow was beguiled by this soothing occupation. I was pleased that thy property was my only possession, and that I should give thee an account of it at thy return. I every day drove thy sheep to their pasture, and decked thy mother's grave with flowers; I invoked her beloved shade, and begged her to bring thee to me. My wishes are heard; I see thee again; and all that I have suffered is nothing.

Thus spoke Camilla: Leo pressed her to his bosom, while the pious Numa raised an altar of turf, and hastened to choose the ram which Camilla had vowed to Venus. He placed

placed it on the altar; and on their knees they concluded the sacrifice. They afterwards returned to the cottage, and next day the two lovers, crowned with flowers, went to the tomb of Myrtale. Numa was their guide. Acquainted from his infancy with the ceremonies of sacrifice, he offered to the manes two black sheep, and four lambs to his protectress Ceres. He invoked and begged the goddess to shower down blessings from the height of heaven on the nuptials of Leo and Camilla: he joined their hands, he united them in the names of Ceres and Myrtale; he then, in honour of the occasion, consumed whole victims, and returned with them, singing the hymeneal hymn. Pleasing, simple ceremony, bearing little resemblance to the dazzling and joyless marriages of kings! Affecting
union,

union, which had no witnesses but the gods, no guarantee but virtue, no pontiff but friendship!

Their happiness reminded Numa of the pleasant valley: he spoke only of Anais; he dreamed only of her, he yielded without apprehension to feelings, which he suspected not to be those of love. The sentiments which she inspired were so different from those which Herfilia had excited, his first passion had rendered him so unhappy, that, still trembling at the name of love, he called by the term friendship that irresistible inclination by which he was attracted to Anais.

After Leo and Camilla had devoted some time to the rapturous enjoyments of love, Numa proposed a journey to the pleasant valley. Leo smiled; Numa blushing reminded him

him that he had promised the venerable tenant a second visit. The Marfian hero joyfully consented, Camilla would not be separated; they all armed set forward, and lightened by their conversation the fatigues of a laborious expedition.

Numa always led the way; the nearer they approached, the greater was his impatience; and when the cottage appeared he pressed forward to it with redoubled precipitation.

He was doubtless conducted by a divinity; for he had scarce reached the valley when he heard cries of distress. He hastened forward, and perceived the venerable old man in the hands of a numerous banditti, who were dragging him along, and threatening him with instant death. A little farther on he beheld Anais furrounded by another troop, regardless of her
fighs

fighs and tears. She and her father were in situations of equal danger. To whom should he first afford assistance? He determined to defend the weaker. He rushed upon the ruffians who had seized the father, sacrificed three of them, furiously repulsed the rest, and cried out aloud, in order to draw the others from Anais. At his voice these joined their companions. Numa's fears were now much diminished. Danger threatened himself only, and was clothed with no terror. Anais was near her father; and Numa became a shield to both. He alone opposed the whole band of robbers. He inflicted wounds with incredible profusion; but he himself was also at last wounded. Two of the banditti lay breathless at his feet; but their companions were ready to overpower him.

He

He began to sink under their blows, when the club of Leo fell like thunder in the midst of the robbers. Camilla soon perceived they were the Salernitan soldiers who had escaped from the shipwreck, and pierced with her arrows as many of them as came within her reach. Anais's father, who was risen from the ground, had seized a sword, and was defending his protectors. The robbers were soon slain: Anais embraced her father; Numa and Leo were bathed in tears of gratitude and joy.

The fatigue of a long combat, the loss of blood, the sudden transition from the dread of losing Anais to the pleasure of having saved her, exhausted Numa's remaining powers. He was carried to the cottage, and attended with assiduous anxiety. Leo and the old man examined

mined and dressed his wounds. The grateful Anais came forward, and gently pressed his hand. You have doubly saved my life, said she; I owe to you my own preservation and that of my father. These words were to Numa a healing balm; he was unable to reply, yet his eyes cast on Anais glances of satisfaction, and expressed what his tongue could not utter.

The wounds of Numa were deep, but not dangerous; time only was wanting for his cure. Anais and her father, Camilla and her husband, were his constant attendants. That tender friendship which had already commenced between the venerable cottager and the Marlian hero, gained every day additional strength. Leo and Numa were both equally impatient to know the history of a

character whom they so highly revered. One day, while all were seated near the bed of the wounded youth, the two friends joined their intreaties to obtain this recital, and the old man, after raising his eyes to heaven, began in the following terms :

I am by birth a Bactrian, my blood is derived from the antient kings of Persia, and my name, celebrated in Asia has perhaps reached your ears ; I am called ZOROASTER.

At this illustrious name, Numa, Leo, and Camilla beheld each other with surprize, and the sage with veneration. The affectionate Anais, who read in their minds the respect with which they regarded her father, testified her gratitude by a smile of the most captivating sweetness.

Zoro-

Zoroaster proceeded: My father being dethroned by the king of Assyria, wandered as a suppliant through all the courts of Asia, and left me no other inheritance than the history of his misfortunes, and his right to the throne of Persia. This I was anxious to assert: I levied troops, and returned to the kingdom which my ancestors had governed. I found that Persia was happy under the empire of Phul, the wise king of Nineveh: this great man supported his throne by justice. I was sensible that my subjects would gain nothing by a change of masters. From that moment I renounced my projects; to disturb the happiness of a whole nation for empty claims, in which I alone was interested, seemed to me highly criminal; and I could never consent that thousands

of my fellow creatures should destroy each other, to assist me in supplanting a monarch, whom I could not excel in virtue. I disbanded my troops; I carefully concealed my birth; I stifled those proud suggestions from which the purest mind is not totally exempt; and devoting my time entirely to the study of nature, I was more delighted in becoming a philosopher than a king.

I traversed every country in Asia; I sought among the Bramins, the Chinese, and the philosophers of the Ganges, for that wisdom of which I was enamoured. I every where discovered that superstition was to mankind much dearer than truth. As simplicity is its greatest charm, it is less dazzling than error. I relinquished the hope of meeting it upon earth, and I wished for dissolution.

The

The great Orosmales, from his celestial throne, cast his eyes upon me, and infused into my breast a pure ray of his intelligence. During twenty years I meditated in a desert, and my reason proved to me that there could be only one God; that this Deity had given me a soul, which should certainly survive my body, to receive punishment or reward. My heart informed me that God was good; and that the evil which I saw upon the earth could not proceed from him, but must be derived from some malevolent being, the enemy of God and mankind. I abhorred that being. I adored my Creator; I worshipped him in the most striking of his works, in the sun, bright emblem of his power, splendour, and beneficence. I saw that this sun bounteously afforded harvests to the Scy-

thians, the Persians, the Syrians, and all the people of the earth, however divided in religious opinions. I concluded that this Supreme Being, so universally indulgent, loves all mankind, supports those who calumniate him, pardons their weakness, and is averse to persecution.

Convinced of these eternal truths, I thought them too valuable an acquisition to be enjoyed alone. I considered it as my duty to make them known; I quitted my solitude, and said to the people, Love God and your fellow creatures. Adore the Creator in the sun, which is the torch of the world, and in the fire, which is the soul of every thing. Be pure in your thoughts, words, and actions. Whatever be your religion, do good to all mankind; live and die faithful to your kings; pay tributes without
murmur-

murmuring ; cultivate the earth, for to labour is to serve God ; and learn to abstain from an action when you are doubtful whether it be good or bad.

Such was my doctrine : I diffused it from the Euphrates to the Indus. The people heard and believed me ; my disciples daily increased ; had I chosen to have armed them, I might have subdued Asia. But the love of mankind was stronger in my heart than any affection for my tenets. I would have relinquished the hope of seeing them prevail, if their establishment had required an effusion of blood. I dispersed my disciples, and compelled them to leave me ; I said to them, Love peace, remain with your families ; the God whom I declare to you forbids that you expose yourselves to danger on my account.

Among my disciples was a young virgin, who, notwithstanding my positive prohibition, refused to leave me. She was called Oxane; my tears will flow at the repetition of a name so much beloved. Oxane loved Zoroaster, still more than the prophet. She became my constant attendant. When I spoke, she listened with rapture; her soul spoke in her eyes; her countenance was expressive of felicity: when I remained silent, or when the least cloud seemed to obscure my brow, Oxane was more melancholy than myself; she dared not to ask the cause of my solicitude, yet her anxious looks informed me of what she suffered. I conjured her continually not to follow me. O my father, she replied, I would die for thy doctrine, but allow me to live for Zoroaster.

The

The more I see and hear thee, the more I feel that I love the God thou worshippest. I fear lest thou shouldst suffer persecution, and this idea weds me to thy fortune. No, Oxane will never leave thee, till thou hast found the partner whom Orosmades has designed thee. I am anxious to see and to serve that happy woman who is to recompense thee by her affection, her care, and her delicious society, for all the good which thou hast bestowed upon mankind.

Such love and constancy kindled in my mind a sentiment to which I had believed myself a stranger. I became the husband of Oxane. Orosmades, from his exalted throne, blessed our nuptials ; and in giving me a virtuous and affectionate wife, made me ample recompence for every labour I had undergone.

O sea-

O season of felicity, thy duration was too fleeting ! Oxane and I lived in Persia : my disciples, who had assumed the title of Magi, dispersed in their retreats, worshipped the fire, cultivated the earth, and practised virtue.

Phul, the king of Nineveh, like all great monarchs, was a friend to toleration, and disregarded a religion which neither corrupted the loyalty, nor the morals of his subjects. But being arrived at an extreme old age, he paid the tribute to nature, and left his throne to his son Sardanapalus.

That unhappy prince, too young for so exalted a station, resigned to flatterers, by whom his mind had been corrupted, the reins of empire, forgot the lessons of his father, his subjects, and his duty, and plunged into the most enormous and disgraceful excesses.

excesses. The vices of his court extended their baneful influence to Nineveh, and from thence were diffused over the whole empire. in the space of two years, the capital and the provinces became equally corrupt. Become the sport of his ministers, the slave of his eunuchs, and the tyrant of his people, he recollected that he was a king only by the cruel edicts which he signed, by the exactions which he made, and by the blood which he profusely shed to gratify his infamous pleasures, or to please his abandoned minions.

Every thing at Nineveh was to be gained only by money : honours, employments, justice were sold to the highest bidder. Courtiers governed the empire, commanded with a smile the ruin of a province, and boasted that they consumed at a meal the property

perty of a hundred families. Cruel satraps, enemies both to the state and the people, equally despising their master and each other, carried on a public traffic, sold without remorse the patrimony of the orphan, and the liberty of the innocent. Soldiers boasted of the effeminacy of their manners; magistrates no longer blushed for their injustice. Among every order of citizens, rapine was the only path to reputation; and the people, exhausted by taxes, trodden under foot by the nobles, ministers, judges, and even by the king's slaves, supplicated heaven for relief.

Weakness and cruelty are commonly united. From his profligate retreat, he ordered a persecution against the Magi. He had just been engaged in a disgraceful war; and thinking the gods were offended, he imagined it
more

more easy to revenge their cause by bloodshed, than to appease them by the practice of virtue. He directed my disciples to be exterminated, proclaimed a reward of ten talents of gold to any person who should seize me alive, and condemned me by anticipation to torments before unknown.

Fire and sword soon defoliated the habitations of the Magi; and their retreats swam with blood. The unrelenting soldiers of Sardanapalus, who had exhibited cowardice against their enemies, were abundantly zealous in persecuting their fellow citizens. They pursued with the sword the few Magi who had escaped; they slaughtered whom they overtook, and they massacred, after having violated them, our mothers and daughters, and believed every outrage meritorious,

ritorious, because they acted in the name of their gods.

I escaped with my wife; but many times I was on the point of surrendering myself to the tyrant, in order to stop the ravages of persecution. The cruel Sardanapalus, however, had condemned *all* the Magi, and my death would not have preserved a single individual; besides, Oxane carried in her womb a pledge of our affection; and the name of father rendered me attached to life. Comforted by my wife, supported by her courage, wandering from desert to desert, destitute of friends, and often in want of food, we traversed Persia, Sogdiana, Bactria, constantly in danger of falling into the hands of our persecutors, always rejected or betrayed by those of whom we begged protection. Yet in the midst of our perils,

rils, and under impending calamities, the idea of suffering for truth softened all our anxieties. In every additional grief we thought of future recompense. Hope inspired us with strength, and love with consolation.

Having entered at last into the deserts of Arabia, we penetrated a deep cavern, in the middle of which stood a tomb. The stone was thrown down; the coffin was empty. A golden plate struck my eye: I took hold of it, and by the faint glimpse of light which the cave afforded, I perceived inscribed these words, written in sacred characters. "Zoroaster, deposit in
"this place the book of the sacred
"law, the *Zend-avesta*, which thou
"hast written under the inspiration
"of Oromades. The hour is not
"yet arrived, when this book, which
is

“ is an emanation from the deity, must
“ be known to mankind : thy religion
“ will yet for a long period be rejected
“ by the world. But a second Zoro-
“ after will in the fulness of time be
“ born ; who shall direct his steps to
“ this cavern, and shall find thy fa-
“ cred volume ; and, having shewn it
“ to Asia, will place it on a throne,
“ where it shall become the law of
“ nations. Respecting thyself, thy
“ labours are terminated : set forward
“ on thy journey to Phœnicia ; and,
“ braving the stormy ocean, seek in
“ the west for a tranquil country,
“ where, thy name being less known,
“ thou shalt not be exposed to perse-
“ cution. Such is the wish of Orof-
“ mades ; obey without a murmur.”

These words I perused twice, and
doubted not but they had been traced
by an angel's hand. I replaced the
golden

golden plate respectfully in the coffin. I deposited there the sacred volume ; I covered the tomb with the stone which had been thrown down, and falling prostrate on the earth, I made obeisance to Orosnades.

After having adored his name, I departed from the cavern ; and directed my steps towards the rich city of Tyre. There, attended by my beloved Oxane, I went on board a vessel with an intention of seeking an asylum among the inhabitants of Greece or Iberia. Our ship was driven by a storm on the Tarentanian coast. Orosnades heard my supplication, and preserved my wife. I carried her in my arms to a village of the Marfi, where we were received with kindness. But my dear Oxane, feeble, languishing, and overpowered with the fa-

tigue of her voyage, was soon surprized by the pains of labour; she made me at the same time the father of a son and a daughter. We determined to settle among the Marfi; some jewels, the only remains of my former fortune, put me in possession of a cottage.

We were enjoying happiness and repose in the worship of our divinity, and in the education of our children, when the cruel Pelignians, who were then at war with the Marfi, burnt our village, and rushed into the cottage where I was sleeping with my children and Oxane. My wife and son were massacred by those barbarians before my face. My tears and cries, and efforts were in vain. I saved my daughter only; I shielded her with my body; I received all the wounds

wounds which those fiends designed for her. Carrying her in my arms through flames and slaughter, and marking my passage with blood, I arrived in this valley, built a cottage, in which I have brought up my beloved Anais, my last and only consolation after eighty years misfortunes. She is the only motive for which I wish to live, since both in her features and her virtues she daily reminds me of Oxane.

At these words, the venerable sage embraced Anais with the most ardent affection.

Leo, in a state of extreme impatience, seized his hand, and with tears starting from his eyes, demanded: In what place, in what village, did you lose your son? In Avia, answered the sage, on the banks of the river

Aternus. Did not that child whom you lament, continued Leo, wear at his neck an engraved emerald? Yes, replied he surprized, his mother was pleased that he should wear it; the name of Orosmades was written in Persian characters.

Embrace your son! exclaimed Leo, throwing himself into his arms, I have the happiness to call you father. Here is the emerald you have mentioned: I was found in Avia in the arms of death; I bear still on my bosom the mark of the poniard with which I was wounded by the Pelignians. From the first moment I beheld you, my heart throbbed with unusual anxiety: an involuntary sympathy has assured me that I was indebted to you for life.

He spoke, and Zoroaster was unable to reply. He acknowledged
the

the stone to be the same ; he read the name of his divinity : he pressed Leo to his bosom, covered him with kisses, and was ready to expire in an extacy of joy.

END OF THE NINTH BOOK.

NUMA POMPILIUS.

ARGUMENT.

BOOK X.

Troubles at Rome. Numa's happiness. Leo solicits the hand of Anais for his friend. Zoroaster refuses. The speech of Numa. He obtains Anais. On the point of marrying her. The arrival of the Roman ambassadors. They relate the calamities of Rome, the plague by which it has been ravaged, the death of Romulus, and the election of Numa. Numa refuses the crown. Anais's arguments to induce him to accept it. He remains inflexible.

DURING these events, Rome was in a state of consternation and disorder. The Sabines, afflicted at the loss of Tatius, and the exile of Numa, paid a reluctant obedience to the assassin of their king. Tatia's death, which was attributed to Herfilia,

filia, rendered that princess the object of execration. More inveterate than ever against the Romans, indulging a mutual distrust of each other, and not concealing their hatred, they were constantly ready to engage in a civil war. Enmity and suspicion pervaded every family; and had not the prudent Metius interposed, Rome must have become the theatre of outrage and bloodshed.

Romulus, a prey to that gloomy rancour, which in the minds of the most abandoned occupies the place of remorse, in order to restrain his people, oppressed them with new taxes, shed the blood of the nobles, and reigned only by terror.

Herfilia, who resembled too nearly in disposition her inhuman father, was perpetually the victim of jealousy and rage. Persuaded that some happy

fair one was in possession of Numa's affections, she dispatched secret emissaries to all the states of Italy, to gain information of her lover and her rival, to threaten with her father's vengeance those kings who should allow them an asylum, and to offer a reward for depriving them of life.

During this period, Numa, concealed in the recesses of the Apennines, and surrounded by faithful friends, was shedding tears of joy over the happiness of Leo and Zoroaster. The affectionate sage could not satisfy himself with seeing, hearing, and embracing Leo. My dear son, said he, art thou indeed restored to me! Do my eyes again behold thee! The first moment I saw thee I was not deceived; my heart was then drawn toward thee by an irresistible attraction. How I delight in contemplating thee!

thee! How do the majestic form of thy person, and the beauty of thy features, charm my soul! Come to my bosom, and call me father; thou owest me all those embraces, of which, from thy earliest infancy, I have been unfortunately deprived.

Leo replied by his tears; Camilla was a silent spectator. Leo now took her by the hand, and presented her to Zoroaster: My father, said he, behold the sovereign of my heart. We were for a long time divided from each other; we are now inseparably united. Could we have foreseen that I should have found a father, we would have delayed the gratification of our mutual passion, however violent, till your hands had joined us together. Forgive us the felicity we have enjoyed, and augment our pleasures by giving them your confirmation.

He

He spoke : Camilla fell on her knees ; her heart throbbed, her eyes were cast upon the ground, her cheeks were overspread with blushes, and she waited with anxiety till he should call her by the name of daughter. She was never so desirous of appearing beautiful, not even in the opinion of Leo ; and her silence seemed to say, My features are unworthy of notice, but my heart is deserving of your regard.

My daughter, replied Zoroaster, raising her from the ground, my happiness exceeds my sufferings ; I lost only one child, and this day has doubly repaid me.

At these words, he embraced Camilla with the tenderest affection. This interesting scene was terminated by the history of Leo's adventures ; the warm concern which Zoroaster
and

and his daughter took in this narrative, heightened the feelings which nature had implanted in their breasts.

Numa participated the common joy. Since Anais became the sister of Leo, she appeared to him more beautiful : every day he discovered in her new virtues ; he perpetually spoke of her to his friend ; the name of friend, which had been hitherto so dear to him, appeared now not sufficiently affectionate.

When Numa began to recover strength, he breathed the morning air, and never failed to direct his steps to those places where Anais was tending her flock ; for the sake of her society he commenced shepherd. While Camilla and her husband pursued the chase for Zoroaster, Numa related to their sister the history of his life. He listened with rapture to
the

the reflections and counsel of Anais ; he was astonished at finding in her so much intelligence at such an early age, and he every day acquired an increase of wisdom or of virtue. Sometimes, by joining reeds together with wax, he made a pipe, and accompanied with its melodious sounds the pleasing voice of the shepherdes ; more frequently he repeated with her the songs and hymns which she had taught him. He had no suspicion of love ; he experienced a sensation more delightful and tranquil. In the morning he always repaired to Anais. Her presence excited no transports ; yet he felt a want of her society. He was not agitated when he saw her ; yet she was essential to his happiness. He seemed to derive reason and existence only from Anais. Thus the tender Clytia languishes and fades in
the

the absence of the god of day ; but when Phœbus reappears, it elevates its head, points it towards the source of light, turning upon its stem, follows the sun in his course, and ceases only to receive his rays when he sinks into the bosom of Thetis.

The modest Anais, who neither felt in her own bosom, nor perceived in that of Numa, any cause of alarm, gave way to sensations which she was tempted to indulge. To the deliverer of her father and herself she took a delight in proving grateful. The virtues of Numa afforded her in the exercise of this duty an additional pleasure. She loved to converse with the pupil of Tullus concerning the wonders of nature, the revolution of the planets, the diversity of mankind, the variety of governments and religions, and the uniform stability of moral truth.

truth. Each attached to a favourite doctrine, explained or defended it. They agreed with regard to manners, though they differed as to forms of worship. Their minds were in unison during every conflict of their reason; and Numa, who admired the sound understanding of Anais, felt that his respect and affection for her was every moment increased.

Leo was the first who perceived their mutual passion: he wished ardently for his friend to become his brother. Dost thou love my sister? said he to him one day; tell me frankly. Numa blushed, and appeared confused. Why dost thou blush? said Leo; the gods have given us love as a consolation for our griefs, and as a reward for our virtues. If thy heart be disengaged from the unworthy chains of Hersilia, if thou delightest
in

in Anais as much as Leo delights in thee, I will obtain her for thee from my father. Say only, "I will make thy sister happy," and I will believe thy word equally with the oracle of the gods. My friend, replied Numa, the name of Herfilia fills me with terror, that of Anais inspires me with confidence. What I feel for thy sister bears no resemblance to the former sensation which rendered me so unhappy. I see Anais every day, I do not leave her for a single moment; yet I never conceived an idea of speaking to her concerning love and marriage. Yet, my friend, I am well convinced that if happiness has any residence upon the earth, it must be possessed by the husband of thy sister.

He spoke. Leo embraced him, and taking his hand, led him to Zo-roaster. He doubted not of his consent ;

sent ; he accordingly solicited Anais for his friend and deliverer, for him whom of all mankind he loved and esteemed the most.

How great was his surprize and disappointment, when Zoroaster, after listening to his request with a serious aspect, replied in the following terms :

My son, I love Numa, and am indebted to him for my life ; and I should bless the day when I might be able to repay him for his services ; but my daughter is a member of a religion of which I am the head, whose laws forbid alliance with idolaters. Thou knowest that I have sacrificed every thing for this sacred law. Honours, riches, and repose have all been rejected. Shall I then at the close of life, at the moment when I expect to receive a reward
for

for my sufferings, abandon my principles, by disobeying the precepts which I myself have taught.

You have then been a teacher of ingratitude, interrupted Leo, with a tone of impatience.

No, my son, replied Zoroaster, I have only consulted prudence. I have guarded against my religion being endangered by my daughter's marriage to a husband of a different persuasion: I have provided against the empire of love, which naturally inclines a feeling heart to adopt the sentiments of its beloved object. My daughter would love Numa, and imbibe his tenets; she would abandon the religion of her father; and I should be accountable for her conduct to the great Orosmales. I am sufficiently distressed that my son, educated among idolaters, should have em-

braced their doctrine ; I wish at least to preserve my daughter in the service of a deity for whom I have endured such sufferings. The more Numa is estimable, the greater will be her danger. Tyrants and persecutors may exercise their ravages in vain ; but examples of virtue in a different sect are sometimes too powerful to be resisted.

Besides, our religion being abhorred by every nation upon earth, should Numa espouse my daughter, he would prove odious to all the states of Italy ; and Anais would thereby, perhaps, become less the object of his affections. — Pardon me, Numa, I afflict thee ; I appear to thee doubtless as guilty of ingratitude ; but I believe in my religion, I love my daughter, and can neither reconcile myself to expose her to danger, nor to bestow on thee as
her

her dowry the hatred of thy own nation.

Zoroaster was silent. Leo stood motionless with his eyes fixed upon the ground ; he was afflicted at not being able to oppose his father with arguments. Numa, who had listened with profound attention, beheld the parent of Anais with a serene aspect, and replied in the following words :

Since my birth, Zoroaster, the gods whom I worship have manifested their power in my favour : I love and fear them ; and I would die rather than desert them. Yet I should detest myself were I capable of abhorring any religion upon earth. All religions are permitted by the gods ; why then should I be less indulgent ? May destruction befall those, who, like Sardanapalus, hunt mankind with slaugh-

ter, because they think differently from themselves, who offer death or their own doctrines, and multiply martyrs while they increase crimes. Did they pursue an opposite conduct, they would gain proselytes by kindness and humanity. It is not for us, imperfect beings, to vindicate the cause of heaven, and to charge ourselves with its concerns. Ants do not destroy each other for the honour of the master of the field which they inhabit; they enjoy peacefully the benefits which he allows them. The first attribute of the gods is benevolence. Of all sects, persecutors constitute the only one which they behold with hatred. These are the real enemies of the immortal deities; because they rob them of their darling pleasure, that which is derived from indulgence to human weakness.

Such

Such, Zoroaster, are the principles of that religion which I profess. Judge whether thy daughter's faith will meet with an enemy in me. I should reverence her tenets as highly as she could respect mine: she should worship Orosmales, and I would adore Jupiter. These deities, however, agree in the same things: to comfort and honour thy old age, to love each other, and to relieve the unfortunate, are precepts enjoined by thy divinity, and prescribed by mine. In discharging these duties, our hearts would become more closely united, and mingled together; like two rivers of equal purity, whose streams issuing from different sources, are confounded in each other.

Thou hast said that my marriage would bring on me the hatred of my own nation. I have no longer any

M 3 nation,

nation, or country ; I have lost Tullus and Tatius ; to my view the universe is confined to the cottage of Zoroaster : my heart persuades me that I shall not here be hated. O my father, receive me into thy bosom ; accept of me for thy son ; restore to me in one moment all which the gods have in so many years deprived me of ; give to me Anais : it shall be our sole business to prolong thy days. In this valley we will live in peace, and thy son's children and mine shall compose a colony, which from age to age shall bless the name of Zoroaster. By contemplating this rising generation, thou shalt forget the pressure of declining years ; thou wilt be the object of their affection, the source of their happiness. My daughter, if I am blessed with one, shall be named Oxane ; and her caresses will prove
more

more dear to thee from this beloved appellation. Connected with us by the tenderest of all ties, thou wilt behold our lives employed in giving thee proofs of our attachment ; and every morning thou shalt see thy two united families approach thee with equal pleasure and respect, as thy disciples are wont to pay to the rising sun.

At these words, Numa fell on his knees. Zoroaster, though moved, still attempted to resist ; but Leo exclaimed, He has saved your life ! He has preserved Anais ! Then, replied the sage, who could resist no longer, Anais shall be his reward, and I will be his father.

At this pleasing sentence, Numa rushed into the arms of Zoroaster. He could neither contain his joy, nor express his gratitude. He was anx-

ious to embrace Leo ; but he had gone to seek his sister. He re-appeared with her. In thy deliverer, said Zoroaster, behold thy husband. In eight days you shall be united : may the great Orosmales make me the only victim of his anger, if he disapprove of your nuptials. At these words he pressed to his heart the hand of Anais and that of Numa.

A blush of confusion overspread the face of Anais. But by a captivating smile soon confirmed the promise which her father had made ; and from this moment the enraptured Numa, his amiable friend, and the beautiful Camilla, thought only on preparing for the approaching marriage.

Leo and Camilla had already provided the wood with which Numa should build his cottage ; its situation

was

was near to Zoroaster. Numa took care that it should front the east, that his pious consort might every morning, at his earliest appearance, pay her devotions to the sun. He covered it with hides, which, interwoven with the branches of trees, formed an impenetrable defence against the sun, the rain, and the cold. It was furnished with every thing which was either convenient or pleasing: Numa ornamented it with that taste which love only can inspire. A garden was marked out contiguous to the cottage; Numa contrived that the arbour of wild jasmine, under which he had first seen Anais, should be in the middle. He turned the arm of a rivulet, and caused it to pursue its winding course through banks of flowers. Fruit trees, the produce of nature, superadded utility to ornament;

ment ; and a living hedge was ready to afford a shade to the roebucks when they should come to crop the herbage.

Anais presided over the work ; and Numa was animated by her presence. He wished his own exertions alone should finish his design ; but Leo and Camilla compelled him to accept of their assistance. Their labours were now concluded ; Camilla had despoiled the neighbouring meadows of their flowers ; the garlands were woven, and suspended in the new cottage ; the sun had sunk beneath the waves, and his return was to bring unspeakable happiness to the expecting lovers ; but in the evening, at the hour when they were all going to seat themselves in Zoroaster's cottage round a frugal table, a knocking was heard at the door, and a secret forboding made

made Numa to tremble with apprehension.

Leo arose, took his club, and hastened to the door. The strangers were not enemies ; a venerable old man, accompanied by two warriors, begged for a hospitable reception. Leo complied, and conducted them into the cottage.

Their countenances were no sooner discovered, than Numa uttered an exclamation of surprize, and ran to embrace the aged visitor. Can it be you, Metius, the inestimable friend of Tatius and my father ! the sole support, the last hope of the Sabine people !

Metius astonished, recollected Numa in his turn. He could hardly believe the testimony of his sight. O my master, my friend, said he, do I then at last find you, after having in vain sought you in every corner of Italy !

Italy! Permit me, before I pay you that homage which is your due, to clasp you once more in my trembling arms, and to allow my heart to use thus the last moments, in which I am permitted to call you by the name of friend. At these words, the faithful Metius embraced Numa with repeated tenderness. Then turning to the two warriors who attended him, Volesus and Proculus, said he, our search is finished, we have found our king. Then Metius and the two Romans bended their knees before Numa, and hailed him king of Rome.

What would you say? interrupted Numa, endeavouring to make them rise; I am not your king; I neither desire nor deserve that honour. You are our monarch, replied Metius, by the most glorious, and most legal of all claims; you are elected by the
unani-

unanimous voice of the people. The Romans and Sabines, ready to destroy each other, concerning the appointment of Romulus's successor, have found only Numa who can meet the approbation of them both; your name alone has terminated their animosity, has established unanimity. You are a king, Numa; the people are impatient for your return.

Surprized and afflicted, Numa made the ambassadors sit down, and begged Metius to inform him of the important events, which, during his absence, had befallen his country. The aged general gratified his request in the following words:

Our calamities reached their summit. Romulus, abhorred by the Sabines, hated even by his own people, made Rome to groan under an iron sceptre. He was no longer the conqueror

queror crowned with laurels, who sacrificed only the enemies of his country; he became an inhuman tyrant, whom a barbarous policy taught to crush his people, in order to govern them, and who, on the slightest pretence, stained the earth with patrician blood. Such are the consequences of a first crime: when the mind is stained with it, all the virtues take their leave, and all the vices become its inhabitants.

The gods however announced their justice by the most alarming testimonies of their anger: the plague desolated Rome. Never was contagion attended by symptoms more truly terrifying. A devouring fever burnt at the same time the breast and the bowels; the eyes, inflamed and bloody, scarcely moved in their sockets; the mouth, covered
with

with ulcers, exhaled poisonous effluvia; the tongue, foul, swelled, and clinging to the palate, stopped respiration; the nerves grew stiff, the limbs shivered,; and the cold hand of death, which spread itself by degrees, could not extinguish the burning heat, with which even the bones were consumed.

Houses were soon insufficient to contain the unhappy victims: the roads, public places, and temples of the gods, were crowded with them. Groups of beings at the point of death were seen half-naked, flying from their beds, and their household gods, seeking and begging for water. They went to plunge into the Tiber, the fountains, and the marshy grounds. They listened to no counsel, they drank without hesitation; and, unable to quench their thirst,

thirst, they expired in the midst of the waves. The tender ties of friendship, and the feelings of nature, were neglected and forgotten. The son, frantic with pain, refused to embrace his father; brother avoided brother, and fled the baneful contagion; the dying mother, at a distance from her husband, a prey to the convulsions of death, her eyes inverted, her teeth clenched, removed from her with stiffened arms the feeble infant, who stretched out its hands, wept, and wished still to press her withered breasts. Pain only prevailed. Torments and death were every where to be seen. Infancy, manhood, old age, all promiscuously perished. The flaming piles were supplied with continual food. These, though ever so numerous, were still insufficient: they became the

the subjects of dispute; and they who had constructed them were obliged to hazard a battle, before they could pay the last tribute of duty to their departed parents.

Romulus, who regretted the loss of his soldiers, in order to appease the gods, ordained a solemn sacrifice. All his people, or rather the feeble remnant of his subjects, repaired to the place appointed. Sacrificators, priests, and citizens, pale, and emaciated, advanced with slow steps towards the altar. The soldier, without his breast plate, approached deliberately, resting on his javelin; he could scarce raise his eyes to behold the standard of his battalion. Women, and old men, leaning on staffs, held their children by the hand; the infants fell, and dragged to the

ground their feeble supports. Persons of all ages and descriptions assembled together; none had strength sufficient to raise his voice; and the Roman people, lately the terror of Italy, resembled a troop of spectres which a Theffalian magician conjures up from the shades below.

Libations were poured forth, and victims sacrificed; the high priest consulted the entrails, and trembled as he beheld them. He mounted the sacred tripod: the divine spirit possessed him; he was agitated by a holy fury; his eyes sparkled, his mouth foamed; he stretched out his arms, hung down his head; his hairs standing an end, raised up the laurel with which his brow was crowned. But in vain he struggled with the god; he was thrown down, overcome,
and

and forced to yield. The pontiff with difficulty pronounced these words: People, a horrid crime, as yet unatoned for, has brought upon your heads the anger of the immortal gods. While this enormity remains unexpiated, while they who have been guilty of it shall behold the light, ye hope in vain to appease heaven. The pestilence shall ravage our city, while the blood of——

He was proceeding, when Romulus cast upon him a glance of indignation; and fear stopped his voice. But at that moment, the sky was overcast, the sun lost his light, thick darkness covered the earth, and loud thunder pealed from every quarter; it seemed as if the elements in confusion were at war with each

other, and as if nature was plunged again into her original chaos.

The people, terrified, fell on their knees, supplicated the gods, and expected instant death. But after a short interval, the winds became still, the darkness was dispersed, and the sun returned in unclouded brightness. The serenity of the sky produced a calm in our breasts. The Romans looked for, and found each other; Romulus alone was missing. His guards and courtiers sought him in vain. The Celeres, attached to their master for the impunity which he granted them, accused the patricians of having sacrificed their king. The people were preparing to defend the nobles, blood was going that instant to be shed, when Proculus, whom you here behold, one of the most venerable among the Romans, for
rank

rank and age, but more respectable for his virtue, came forward, and by an ingenious fiction quieted their animosity. Romans, said he, cease to search for Romulus; I myself have seen his father Mars descend upon the earth, and carry him off in his blood-stained chariot. Proculus, said our king, my glory has reached its summit; I have enjoyed victories and triumphs. I have built a city which must be the mistress of the world; all my duties are fulfilled: the god of battle associates me with him in his immortal honours. Announce to the Romans my situation; say, that Mars and Romulus will hereafter always direct their armies, and that in future I am to be invoked under the name of Quirinus.

Thus spoke Proculus; and the tumult was appeased. The Celeres did

not presume to doubt the truth of a relation by which their beloved king became a god; the people, contented with having lost a tyrant, chose rather to give him a place in heaven, than to discover and punish those who had rid the earth of such an enemy to mankind.

But it was requisite that a successor should be elected. Herfilia aspired in vain to that exalted honour. The Sabines enraged, declared they would return to Cures, if the throne were filled by the daughter of Romulus: the Romans themselves considered it as a disgrace to be governed by a woman. Rejected by both parties, Herfilia departed from Rome, threatening to rekindle the flames of war; and the people assembled once more to choose a sovereign.

The

The unhappy country was again on the brink of a civil war. The Romans insisted that a Roman should be elected; the Sabines demanded that a Sabine should be king. Since the death of Tatius, said the latter, we have allowed Romulus to reign in tranquillity; it is time that one of our citizens should hold the reins of government in his turn. We are not to be considered as a vanquished people; we are friends and brethren; but never slaves. Our nation is at least equal to yours in rank, courage, and virtue; and we are ready to oppose the smallest violation of this just equality.

Thus spoke the Sabines; and already ran to arms. In that moment the gods inspired me: People, I exclaimed, give me your attention for a moment. You both pretend

to name your king, and to choose a sovereign. Let each yield to the other one half of the privilege which he claims; let that nation which shall name the sovereign be obliged to choose him from that which has not the choice. Romans, choose your master, but let that master be a Sabine; or Sabines, do you dispose of the crown, but let it be given to a Roman.

My counsel was adopted. Peace and tranquillity were restored; and it was settled that the Romans should elect a Sabine monarch. And they unanimously made choice of Numa.

Scarce was his name pronounced, when the two nations, laying aside their animosity, mutually felicitated each other; all the citizens embraced; and with tears of joy exclaimed, The golden age, and Astræa's reign

reign will again revive! Numa is elected our king.

The altars smoked with incense, victims bled, and the temples resounded with thanksgiving. The gods shewed immediate favour; the plague ceased; a salubrious wind restored health to the diseased; prolific dews afforded the husbandman hopes of a double harvest; gods and men, heaven and earth seemed to rejoice at the reign of virtue.

It was immediately agreed to send ambassadors in search of you; I requested to be named one of the number. We hastened to Cures, where we hoped to find you; but we could there gain no information. We then directed our steps to the country of the Marfi, where I thought your friendship for Leo might conduct you: our enquiries were equally unsuccessful.

successful. We afterwards went among the mountains of the Rheates, celebrated by your valour and humanity, when the gods directed us to repair hither. Return then with us; two nations expect you with impatience; you are their only hope, and every moment's delay is a robbery committed against our affection and the public felicity.

Metius here became silent, and Numa beholding him with a smile of sweetness and tranquillity: My friend, he replied, the season of my follies is concluded; the time is past when ambition, false glory, and foolish love, destroyed my peace. A throne would have been to me a dazzling object, when inflamed by the charms of Herfilia I hastened to deserve her by braving the dangers of war; when, blinded by passion, I
was

was anxious to acquire the horrid science of murdering mankind, and admired Romulus in proportion to the calamities which I saw him inflict on his fellow creatures. The veil is now removed from before my eyes; and I thank the gods, who have not abandoned me to myself, I thank my misfortunes from which I have received instruction, I owe gratitude to that tender friendship and pure love by which I am animated, my mind being now enlightened esteems only what is estimable, loves only what is worthy of affection—virtue and repose.

I should be ill fitted to succeed to the throne of Romulus. His fierce and warlike people could scarcely be governed by a monarch, who was the son of a divinity, and an able general. I am only the son of a human being,

being, and abhor war and bloodshed. I detest the perfidious art of disuniting states in order to subdue them, of arming the weak against the strong as a means of enslaving both, and of considering every possession as my own which I have power to obtain. No, Metius, a conqueror is alone qualified to be king of Rome. In vain might I devote my life to the happiness of the Romans, they would condemn a pacific monarch, of whom religion, law, and agriculture would be the only occupation.

My plan, Metius, is fixed : I have discharged my duty to my country ; I have bled for it ; by my banishment I have saved the Sabines ; my task has been fulfilled ; as a recompence I ask only the continuation of my exile. I wish never more to return to Rome ; I desire to live in
this

this valley, which is infinitely more enchanting than the capitol, in the society of my father, my friend, my sister, and my beloved consort; I shall be here more happy and secure than Romulus surrounded by his Celeres, I shall inhabit a cottage more pleasing and convenient than your royal palace; I shall pass my days in innocence and peace, in devotion to the gods, in promoting the happiness of my father and my wife, and in deriving from them my own felicity; and at my death I shall not be made responsible to heaven for the happiness of thousands of my fellow creatures, which it is almost impossible for any human being to secure.

You must be accountable, Numa, for this refusal, interrupted Anais, with a firm tone, if your passion for
me

me, and love of retirement, prompt you to sacrifice the interest of two nations. Can you imagine that heaven has endowed you with talents and virtues for yourself alone? Do you think to please God by living only for yourself? The Supreme Being considers vain speculations as of no value; he requires an active virtue. The upright man will render him an account of every day which he passes without doing good: and the Creator of the world can only regard those with favour, who are industrious in promoting the happiness of mankind.

Thou sayest that an heroic warrior is more necessary to the Romans than a pacific monarch. But the more that people is warlike, the more they have need of wisdom in a king to moderate and restrain their impetuosity,

tuosity, and to soften by his administration that propensity to war, which would otherwise degenerate into savage ferocity. The monarch who would accord with this description can be no other, Numa, than thyself; thy reverence for the gods, thy love of peace, render it thy peculiar duty to govern a people to whose welfare these virtues are so essentially requisite.

Canst thou believe that thou owest nothing to thy country, because thou hast fought in its defence? In what hast thou excelled the most inferior soldier? I appeal to thy own heart; was it for Rome or for Herfilia that thou didst expose thy life? Though to the last drop thou hadst shed thy blood for thy country, yet that remaining drop would be still its due: our duty to our country is never discharged;

charged; we are bound to its service by a perpetual obligation.

I shall further observe, that if the desire of living in retirement with me, if a dread of my religion being unjustly persecuted, be the cause of thy denial, from this moment I renounce all claim to thee for ever. During my whole life I should reproach myself for having deprived two people of happiness, and of the most valuable present which heaven can bestow upon mankind, a good king. This idea would embitter my life, and alter perhaps that tender affection which thou hast inspired in my bosom. Numa, I need not proceed further: I am acquainted with my own duties and with thine: if thou refusest to be useful to mankind, I shall never pardon myself for having been

been the guilty cause of such a fatal resolution.

Such was the speech of Anais; which was seconded by Zoroaster and Leo. Camilla alone approved of Numa's sentiments. Metius and the Roman ambassadors fell on their knees, and urged every thing calculated to convince his understanding, or to move his heart; but their endeavours were in vain.

Like a rock against which the waves are broken he remained immovable. He mildly opposed his determined purpose to their reasoning and persuasion, and concluded by embracing the aged Metius. My father, said he, if you love me, mention no more a throne, which I dread more than a tomb. I wish to die in this valley, and to live in this cottage. I was born free, and I will en-

joy that natural right which every man possesses, of choosing where he can pass his days with the greatest pleasure. I hope that my determination will not offend the gods; but should it have that unhappy effect, I would prefer the task of having to appease them during the rest of my life, rather than encircle my brow with a diadem, which is the object of my abhorrence. After this confession, judge, Metius, if thy solicitations be not in vain; they distress me; I beseech thee, urge them no more. Come, take repose in my cottage, not with thy king, but with thy friend; to-morrow at sunrise thou shalt return and tell the Romans, that if they still love Numa, they will shew their affection by allowing him to enjoy undisturbed his happy retreat.

At

At these words he left Zoroaster's cottage. Anais in vain urged him to return; for the first time he was regardless of her voice. The disconsolate ambassadors went to pass the night in his new cottage. Camilla, after having long defended, in opposition to Anais, Numa's determination, retired with her dear Leo to rest. Zoroaster and his daughter remained together, to meditate the execution of an important project.

END OF THE TENTH BOOK.

NUMA POMPILIUS.

A R G U M E N T.

B O O K XI.

The shade of Tatius appears to Numa. The flight of Anais and her father. Numa's despair. He obeys the gods, and determines to reign. Leo goes in search of his sister. Numa's arrival at Rome. The joy of the people. The first actions of Numa. He visits Egeria's wood. His conversation with that nymph concerning the choice of his ministers, war, policy, social contract, laws and religion. The government of Numa.

NUMA, in the still retirement of his cottage, was a stranger to sleep. The arguments of Anais recurred to his memory. She has threatened, said he, to renounce me, if on her account I forget my duty to my country, and disobey the immortal gods. How
severe

severe a misfortune to displease at the same time the deities and my beloved Anais! If I accept the crown, can I commence my reign with such nuptials? I would support the religion of my country; how then could I place on my throne an enemy to its worship? My people would behold her with horror: notwithstanding the virtues of Anais, public odium would be her portion. I can never expose her to such danger; nor can I sacrifice my love to the vain expectation of governing Rome with justice. I have hitherto sacrificed my time to others, it is time that I should now live for myself.

In the midst of these reflections, the pain of causing affliction to his people, and a dread of offending the gods, conspired to shake his resolu-

tion. Agitated by contrary opinions, enslaved by love, reclaimed by piety, he remained unfixed in his resolves: like a tree wounded by the axe, and ready to yield to the slightest effort, it threatens every side equally with its approaching fall.

Aurora, in her opal car, had already opened the portals of day, when Numa harraressed with fatigue reclined in the arms of sleep. He had scarce yielded to that delicious impression, when the shade of a venerable old man covered with a bloody garment appeared before him. Numa was at first seized with terror; but he recollected Tatius, and his apprehension vanished. My father! my king! said he, for what cause have you left Elysium? Why that bloody robe, which reminds me but too well of the crime of Romulus?

What

What are your commands? Speak, dear, and venerable shade; Numa swears he will obey them. Proceed then to Rome, answered the shade, with a severe tone: the gods command thee to reign; to announce their decrees have I quitted my dark abode. As yet I do not inhabit the Elysian fields: before he rewards the little good I have done, Minos punishes me for the evil which I have allowed to be committed. I am to remain in the Tartarian regions till the Roman people become the most happy of mankind: Numa, be thou my deliverer.

At these words, the shade vanished; Numa stretched forth his arms to retain it, but embraced only the yielding air.

He awoke, trembling with apprehension: he fell on his knees, wor-

O 4 shipped

shipped the gods, and poured forth a libation of wine; and when the sun appeared, he hastened to Anais, to dissipate the anxiety with which he was troubled.

He sought and called her in vain; no answer was returned. Alarmed he penetrated into Zoroaster's cottage, and found his bed deserted. A letter presented itself, in which were the following words:

" ANAIS TO NUMA.

" I AM going to depart, and thou
" wilt see me no more. Should I
" remain in thy society, thou wouldst
" either refuse a throne which is
" offered thee by the Deity for the
" happiness of two nations, a sacrifice I can never approve of; or
" thou wouldst ascend that throne,
" compelling me to share it, and
" offend

“ offend thy people. For the sake
“ of thy glory and interest, Numa,
“ it is necessary to leave thee. This let-
“ ter is bedewed with my tears. Adieu,
“ Numa ; possess thy kingdom : be,
“ if possible, happy ; but forget not
“ Anais. Be assured, in my obscure
“ retreat, I shall incessantly be oc-
“ cupied with thee. I shall hear, I
“ hope, mankind to bless thy name : I
“ shall then rejoice at having pur-
“ chased with my misfortunes thy
“ glory, the happiness of thy people,
“ and the assurance of living for ever
“ impressed upon thy heart.”

Numa read this letter twice with-
out shedding a single tear. He
was overwhelmed with surprize and
grief ; yet he neither wept nor la-
mented. He beheld the letter with
looks of anguish and distraction.

Like

Like a bird, who, returning with provision for her young, finds her nest plundered, remains motionless on the branch of the tree, drops the food from her bill, and contemplates the spot where her beloved progeny had laid.

Tears at length came to his relief, and his breast heaved with sighs. Anais! Anais! he exclaimed in a piteous tone, have you then deserted me? Can you think I shall survive your loss? Can you imagine that I will not traverse the world to find my Anais? How could you abandon me on the very day appointed for our nuptials! Have you passed that cottage prepared for your reception, without interrupting your cruel journey! Have you been able — Despair possesses my whole soul—I renounce wisdom, glory, virtue, and every thing which could

could not retain Anais. From this moment I hate my existence since I no longer live for her; I am equal to an idiot, since Anais has deprived me of my reason.

At these words, he threw himself on the ground. His lamentations brought Camilla and Leo, who were both ignorant of the departure of Zoroaster and his daughter. She is gone! exclaimed Numa as they entered, she is gone! and we shall see her no more. Camilla interposed, but he only answered, she is gone! Leo examined the tablets, and found that Zoroaster had written to him a tender farewell. Thou couldst not have determined, said the parent, between thy father and thy friend: my affection wished to spare thee the painful conflict. It is my duty to leave thee, my dear son, but I should never have had strength to
do

do it, were I not sure of a speedy return.

Numa, at these last words, sprung forward, and repeatedly perused them; they soothed his despair. Leo wept with him, and Camilla joined in consolation. The aged Metius, who at that moment arrived, embraced the two heroes, and offered to abandon every thing in order to go in search of Zoroaster.

Numa was anxious to set out immediately. He thought no more of empire, but only of overtaking Anais. But he had no sooner left the cottage, than a peal of thunder burst over his head, and a voice equally loud pronounced the following words ; NUMA, REMEMBER TATIUS.

Terror interrupted his progress ; he was ashamed at having sacrificed his duty to his passion : he fell on his knees,

knees, remained for a long time prostrate on the ground, begged forgiveness of the manes of Tatius; and rising with an air of tranquillity, I am your KING, said he to the ambassadors, lead me to my people.

At these words, Metius and his companions dared not to express their joy; they perceived how much it had cost Numa to sacrifice feelings, which were dearer to him than his life: they congratulated each other in silence, and prepared to proceed to Rome, where Numa was expected as a protecting divinity.

Leo, while he approved of his friend's conduct, regretted that he could not accompany him; he was resolved, with Camilla, to go in search of his father and sister. He repeatedly embraced Numa, and swore to visit him when he should have spent three months

months in endeavours to find Zo-roaster. Numa, who on the same day had lost his mistress, and separated from his friend, set forward with a heavy heart towards Rome, to take possession of a throne, which was little calculated to afford him consolation.

Conducted by the ambassadors, he passed the Apennines, mounted a car which had been stationed on the frontiers for his convenience, traversed with rapidity the territories of Rome, and soon discovered the city's towering ramparts, which were crowded with people, who watched for the arrival of their king.

The car became no sooner visible, than the air resounded with acclamations. Behold our hero, our father, the favourite of the gods, the favourite of the Romans! Women, children,
old

old men, soldiers, all hurried through the gates to meet Numa. One carried flowers, another olive branches in his hand: they offered these at a distance; they strewed the path in which he was advancing; they crowded round him, and impeded his progress. Romans and Sabines expressed a common joy; their impatience was equal, their feelings were the same.

Numa descended from his car, and mingled with his subjects. He was instantly loaded with blessings, numberless kisses were impressed on his hands and garments. Do not again desert us, said they, but remain for ever with us; the gods have given us a father, to be the constant protector of his children! Numa extended his arms and wept. He was too much agitated to reply, yet his silence and tears sufficiently testified his

his compliance with the wishes of his people. He proceeded slowly, constantly interrupted by new testimonies of applause and joy. Thus the most accomplished of kings, surrounded by his subjects, and confounded with them, entered Rome, and appeared infinitely greater than a conqueror attended by a crowd of slaves, and mounted on a triumphal car.

After clothing him with the insignia of royalty, they conducted, or rather carried him to the capitol, where he was anxious to express his gratitude to the gods: incense smoked, the blood of victims flowed, and their entrails announced only propitious auguries.

Numa deposited his crown and sceptre on the altar of Jupiter: Son of Saturn, said he, if among this crowd

crowd of Romans, who are now offering up their vows, there be any individual animated with a more ardent desire than myself to render this people happy, make him known to me; and to him I will resign the diadem. But if it be thy will that I should possess it, deign, O Jupiter, to attend to my petition: On the first day in which I shall either violate justice, be deaf to the poor, or oppress the unfortunate, may thy lightning hurl me from my throne! I accept it only on this condition, Father of gods and men, this request being granted will be more grateful to me than a conquest over my enemies.

He spoke: acclamations redoubled; and amidst transports of joy the sacrifice was concluded. Numa left the temple, and twelve vultures flying

on his right hand accompanied him to his palace.

Having examined the treasures of Romulus, he distributed one half among the people, and reserved the other for the inhabitants of the country. He disbanded the formidable band of the Celeres: I will have no other guard, said he, than the respect and affection of my subjects. The one is secured by my rank; the other must be acquired by my conduct. To me the Celeres are useless; let them again become citizens. Two of them were accomplices in the murder of Tatius; to you Sabines I commit their punishment. May their guilty blood be the last which shall in my reign be shed by the sword of justice! May the virtue of my people spare me the exertion of every painful duty!

Thus

Thus having fulfilled in the first moments of his reign, the highest of all regal obligations, relieving the distressed, and punishing the guilty, he lived retired for several days in his palace, to take an exact account of his forces, of his wealth, and of the taxes which he might be able to abolish. He had for some time meditated changes in his government, which he deemed essential: but before he entered on this important duty, he resolved to visit the Egerian wood to implore Minerva's assistance, and to lament his beloved Anais, alone and unrestrained.

Having departed from Rome, and entered the sacred wood, he soon arrived at the arbour, where he first beheld Hersilia. At the sight of this spot he was agitated, and ready to swoon. He hastened from the scene,

yet could not quit it without regret: so indelible are the traces of a first affection!

He sat down at a short distance from the arbour, at the foot of a tree, in order to recover from his emotion. Here indulging reflection, and yielding to that delicious melancholy which produces tears without causing pain, he recollected his earliest years; a remembrance sometimes painful, but always dear to a feeling heart. Numa called to mind his first journey to Rome; his dream at the fountain of Pan; the invisible nymph Egeria, who taught him wisdom; his passion for Hersilia, the first cause of his unhappiness; his love for Anais, whose name alone inspired him with confidence; whom he had lost, but whose image still pursued him, fortified his heart against all dangers,

was

was the source of a pleasing recollection mingled with hope, which, consoling his griefs, encouraged him in the pursuit of virtue.

His agitation being considerably abated, he arose, and endeavoured to find the path which led to the temple of Minerva; but embarrassed with the thickness of the wood, he wandered till he arrived at the source of a stream which issued from a little hill shaded by lofty poplars. Neither flock nor shepherd had ever troubled the transparency of that retired fountain. No bird quenching its thirst, or branch of a tree falling into it, had ever discomposed its surface. The trees with which it was surrounded, entwined together, formed round the hill an impenetrable thicket; numberless shrubs and wild rose trees, which grew on the fountain's

bank, filled up the intervals. This tranquil situation seemed consecrated to mystery. It doubtless resembled that part of the forest of Gargaphia, where the imprudent Acteon surprised the daughter of Latona; or perhaps bore a still stronger similitude to that retreat where Phœbe descended to bless with her charms the captivating Endymion.

Numa was struck with such a retreat; and he promised himself the pleasure of frequent visits to it. Approaching near to the source of the fountain, he stooped to take some water in his hand. But as he carried it to his mouth, a voice called to him in a severe tone: Who hath permitted thee, presumptuous mortal, to take water from this fountain? Numa confounded dropped the water, and replied in a timid accent; O naiad, forgive

give my ignorance ; I knew not that this fountain was consecrated to you, I ought indeed to have suspected it by the beauty of its water.

Thou mayst drink of it, replied the voice in a milder tone : I have always beheld Numa with affection, and have long expected him in this place. Remember the nymph Egeria, whose counsels were promised thee by Ceres ; this is her sacred retreat. Thou wilt hear, but never see me. Never penetrate into this thicket ; such is the will of Ceres. Approach this fountain as often as thou wantest to converse with me ; propose thy laws before they are established ; explain to me thy intentions, thy hopes, and thy fears : I will give counsel, without enjoining thee to follow it. I will advise, but not command ; thou shalt consult me as a goddess, and I will

ſpeak to thee as a friend. Numa, adieu, in three days I ſhall again expect thee.

The voice ceaſed ; but Numa remained for ſome time motionleſs in a liſtening attitude. Full of gratitude and joy, he fell on his knees, worſhipped Ceres, repeatedly thanked Egeria, offered up his vows, preſumed ſtill to interrogate her ; but he received no answer. In vain he liſtened with attention ; he heard only that gentle and pleaſing ſound, produced by the leaves being agitated by the zephyr. He looked around, and ſaw only tufted trees. Too pious even to wiſh to penetrate the ſacred retreat, he departed unwillingly from the fountain ; and, aſſured of being aſſiſted by the gods in the government of his kingdom, he returned to Rome elate with expectation.

He

He now collected the principal points of legislation, which he intended to submit to the opinion of Egeria. This long and laborious employment diverted, in some degree, his attention from those miseries with which love had afflicted him. He sometimes flattered himself that the return of Anais would perhaps prove the reward which the gods would bestow upon him for his industry ; and this idea rendered, in his estimation, the happiness of his subjects an object of still higher concernment.

The three days appointed by the nymph being expired, Numa repaired to the fountain. He invoked Egeria. The voice addressed him : Art thou contented, Numa, with thyself ? Hast thou already made thy people happy ? Alas ! replied he, this task in prospect appears easy ; but on a throne it is less

less difficult to do harm than good. The account which has been given me of the administration of my empire, proves to be different from what I expected. When I mentioned the reformation of abuses, they told me abuses were necessary; they gave me reason to apprehend from their removal greater inconveniences: they who are able to assist me are interested in the continuance of these evils. Truth vanishes from my sight; I am surrounded by deceivers: the well-founded distrust with which they have inspired me, in obliging me to superintend every thing myself, renders the execution of the best formed projects long and laborious. The pressure of these weighty concerns will, perhaps, be more than I can sustain; and the only privilege which I shall possess over a bad king, will consist

consist in my being the first to lament the evils which I cannot remove.

Numa, replied the nymph, thy words are replete with error! In thee I behold an example of those passionate mortals, who are ready to undertake every thing to obtain their desires, and are discouraged at the first impediment. Were it an easy task to reign, whence would great kings derive their reputation? Thou art doubtless surrounded by deceit and treachery. Flattery, false glory, craft, and pleasure, dwell near thy throne: concealed under a deceitful mask, and attentive to thy feelings, there are many who endeavour to take advantage of every moment of weakness. Courtiers are continually kept awake by interest: if the monarch slumber for an instant, he is subdued. But these

these dangerous enemies are no longer formidable when they once are known, and thy first occupation, thy most important study, is to become acquainted with them. Those who obtrude themselves on thy attention, who are cautious to smooth every difficulty, to flatter thy wishes, and coincide with thy opinion, are the most destructive foes. Banish them, not from thy court, for it would then be deserted, but from thy heart and thy counsels: despise them, and fear not to shew them thy aversion; thou wilt by this, perhaps, check hypocrisy in the rising generation.

Beware, however, of entertaining a contempt for all mankind; a general distrust and bad opinion of thy species, would be unjust and injurious; it would produce indifference with regard to the choice of those whom
thou

thou shouldst trust with power; hence a long train of evils is derived. Though a king, thou art only a man; a fondness for those virtues with which thou art animated might excite their resemblance in others. Behold mankind then with esteem, regard even some courtiers with a favourable opinion; for there are a few who love virtue, their country, and their king. They never publish their affection, but the people announce it for them; they do not ask for distinction, but the nation bestows it unsolicited. Fear not, in these instances, coinciding in opinion with thy people; be not ashamed to seek for those, who abstain from offering themselves to thy notice. Thy dignity will not be degraded; thou wilt exalt them, without degrading thyself; and, by a single word, by some token of regard, which costs nothing

nothing to a feeling heart, thou wilt augment their talents and their virtues, and at the same time increase the affection which they entertain for thee. How delightful, to see a monarch forget the pride of his rank in the society of those who support its splendour! Let him be dreaded by the unworthy, let him be austere with flatterers, but let the deserving be his friends, and let his affability seem to say, *I treat those as my equals, whose hearts resemble my own.*

My most pleasing employment, replied Numa, will consist in honouring such persons, and to discover them shall be my first task. Yet, aided by these, can I long persevere in the exercise of goodness? My people are accustomed to seek their subsistence from the plunder of war; inactivity would render them unhappy, restless, turbu-

turbulent, and ferocious. Composed of two nations, often opposite in opinion, they can be united only by the operation of salutary laws. This great work requires long consideration; peace and repose are necessary; and yet on every side I am threatened with opposition. The fierce Herfilia is exciting all Italy against me, and will take the first opportunity to besiege Rome; the vanquished people talk of emancipating themselves from the yoke of subjection; population is decayed; and my subjects, oppressed by the taxes of Romulus, can no longer pay them. War will complete my destruction; and to avoid this war, to divide my enemies, a species of art is necessary to which I am a stranger. It is termed policy, is above my understanding and repugnant to my heart. What then should

should I do? How remedy present, by guarding against future evils.

Numa, replied Egeria, it is a certain and invariable truth, which kings should never forget, that virtue, fortitude, and wisdom surmount all impediments. Thou art in possession of these qualities, and must convert them to thy interest. Let us examine the most immediate danger.

In the first place, thou hast need of peace; prepare then for war: this advice is of equal antiquity with the world itself. Romulus has left thee a powerful army, with brave and experienced officers: distinguish them by peculiar attention. As the guardians of their country, bestow on them the highest honours. The less thou art fond of war, the more thou must cultivate thy soldiers. Make a shew of calling them thy associates; lavish

lavish upon them titles and distinctions, but not money; honours will increase their courage, riches will enervate it. Remember the army of Campanians which Leo subdued so easily; it was ruined by luxury. In order to banish it from thy troops, begin by extirpating it from thy palace: the example of a monarch is boundless in its effects. It is by example that we convey the best instruction: be simple in thy dress, and frugal in thy diet; testify an open contempt for effeminacy, and thou wilt see the young Romans imitate the virtues of their king.

But these virtues, without exact discipline, will be insufficient. However noble a centurion may be, let him render to his tribune the same obedience as the lowest of the soldiers; and let the tribune in his turn

be equally obedient to his general. Instruct thy legions to respect their unarmed countrymen; teach them that a warrior should be a lion when opposed to an enemy, a lamb when he associates with a citizen; that a citizen and himself are brothers, one guards his father's dwelling, while the other attends to the concerns of the family, and provides for its maintenance.

Such must be thy army; if next thou choose a skilful general, if thy fortifications be in good condition, and if thy arsenals be well stored, thou wilt easily obtain peace; thou wilt preserve it without having occasion to employ political craft, which is only the resource of weakness, or the pretext of villainy. To deceive mankind by words is an uncertain project; but to keep them
in

in awe, by actions is a safe expedient. If a king be just, averse to attack, yet always ready for defence, he need not dread the intrigues of his most perfidious neighbours. Candour disconcerts cunning: it is the combat of the serpent and the eagle; the contemptible reptile may twine his body, but the bird of Jove darting from a high cloud pierces him with his beak, and, without being proud of his victory, re-ascends to his sublime station.

Exhibit always justice towards thy neighbours; be ever prepared to repel their perfidy; and far from troubling thy repose, they will solicit thy alliance. Rome will become formidable; and thou wilt be able to use the leisure of a glorious peace in preparing laws for thy people. Previous to their establishment, thou must

form in thy mind a picture of social order; thou must present it to thy subjects: and from that moment the most salutary laws will suggest themselves to thee, and will be adopted with equal facility by thy people.

Remember that mankind originally voluntarily associated, in order to procure that support which was necessary to their security, to supply their wants, and to obtain the comforts of life. From this fact spring all the principles of legislation.

An easy and certain subsistence should be the first effects of law: agriculture will afford it. Regard husbandmen as the most valuable of thy subjects; treat them with respect, render their property secure, encourage their marriages, and grant to that art, by which mankind are supported,

ported, the honours which it deserves.

Without other arts agriculture cannot essentially flourish; protect the arts therefore, and invite them into thy kingdom. They will facilitate the labours of the field, by occupying and supporting a great number of citizens.

When the fields shall afford what they are able to produce, some shall become rich from a superfluity of productions, of which another country will be in want. Hence will arise commerce, which thou must always favour, and leave unfettered; but never forget that commerce, which encourages the other arts, can only increase in proportion to the progress of agriculture.

When thou hast fixed these pillars
 Q3 founded,

founded, agriculture, arts, and commerce, thou shalt prepare other laws, which every order of citizens must obey. Let them be few in number, that thy subjects may study and understand them; found them on the love of humanity, which is the first, the most sacred of all laws, and the only one which is written by the hand of nature.

Guided by this unerring rule, thou shalt shelter the weak from the oppression of the powerful; during life thou shalt afford the former support, and after death revenge. Thou shalt regulate the rights of those who are married; thou shalt promote unanimity, fidelity, mildness, and thou shalt permit divorce. Thou shalt allow parents the most absolute authority over their children: dread not their abusing it; ungrateful sons
are

are numerous, but bad fathers are rare. Thou shalt grant the patricians the desirable privilege of protecting, defending, and enriching the plebeians. Thou shalt punish ingratitude and falsehood, and become the scourge of every vice. Thou shalt in fine secure to every citizen honour and repose; to the rich man, his property; to the poor, his resources; to the orphan, his protectors.

O nymph, interrupted Numa, you do not speak to me of religion, and I owe it my earliest veneration. Ceres deigned to protect my infancy, she promised me Egeria's instructions, judge then if I can pay her sufficient honour. I propose by religion to polish my people, and to soften their savage manners. Religion humanizes the soul; and in order to teach mankind to love each other, they must

first be taught to love the gods. I wish to consecrate new pontiffs; to offer sacrifices in the most striking manner; to institute festivals, by whose august appearance men shall be allured to religion, united more intimately to each other, and from fellow citizens be converted into brethren.

I entertain a project which I tremble to avow; but since you read my heart, you will pardon the pure motive by which I am animated, and the painful and affectionate feelings with which I am inspired.

I entertain, Egeria, a holy reverence for the gods. I had rather die than abandon their worship, than offend them for a single moment. But there is one mortal the most perfect and amiable, the most virtuous which can be found upon the earth, who yet
pays

pays not veneration to my divinities. Constantly I lament her loss, the loss of my Anais, separated from whom I can neither enjoy repose nor happiness. Anais, beloved name, which I cannot mention without tears of tenderness, Anais is of the religion of the Magi : she worships only one God, and adores as emblematical of him the sun and the fire. These are two of our divinities ; Apollo and Vulcan, have a right to our homage : To each I will erect a temple. I am still farther anxious to pay Anais a tribute of respect and affection. I wish to institute four priestesses, whose sole employment shall be to watch the sacred fire on an altar consecrated to Vesta. This fire, perpetually alive, shall be to my people the emblem of nature ; to myself the emblem of my love. The vestals shall be virgins ;
previous

previous to their admission they must prove, that their life has been as pure and spotless as that of Anais. After her example, they must worship that fire, of which they are the guardians; and, for the sake of Anais, I will ordain that they shall be regarded with the highest respect and veneration: they shall enjoy regal honours. Permit me, O nymph, to offer this testimony of regard to the object of my adoration, to whom I owe the small portion of virtue I possess, whom I shall perhaps never behold again, but whose beloved image must ever remain indelibly engraven on my heart.

The nymph not immediately replying, Numa became alarmed at her silence; but was soon relieved from his inquietude. King of Rome, returned the voice, I esteem thy constancy, and hope it will be rewarded.

I op-

I oppose not the honour which thou intendest Anais ; but I fear lest thou shouldst extend it too far, and annex too much importance to the ceremonies of religion. Thou wast educated in a temple, Numa ; avoid connecting the priest with the king. Though piety, when restrained within proper limits, gives dignity to man ; when extended too far, it renders him little and insignificant. Feeling hearts are liable to this error ; and disappointment in love renders the danger more imminent. Reason must be thy protection. Remember that a religious man may be a great monarch, but that a superstitious king can never become illustrious.

I am far from inculcating ingratitude, and a neglect of the gods. It is thy duty to honour them ; but this is best performed in being service-
able

able to mankind. Leave to unenlightened piety the childish ceremonies which it alone has invented ; but observe the great precepts which thy religion itself has taught thee.

Art thou anxious to shew thy gratitude to Ceres ? Traverse the fields clad in the habit of a husbandman ; associate with thy rustic subjects ; discuss the laws of Numa ; learn the pernicious consequences which may attend them ; raise objections thyself in order to encourage others to comment, and remember rather the little censure, than the great praise which thou wilt hear.

Visit the cottage of the poor ; judge of his wants by thy own eyes ; caress the naked infant weeping by its sick mother ; console the afflicted father ; teach them to look up to heaven, or to their king for succour ; and on re-
turning

turning to thy palace order them food,
raiment, and seed for their fields.

This is the best method of honour-
ing Ceres; with this offering she will
be more gratified than with the blood
of a thousand heifers. Thy piety will
be soon rewarded; the earth shall be
loaded with harvests; population shall
rapidly increase; plenty shall every
where be seen; rich meadows shall be
covered with numerous flocks; the
fields shall resound with songs of joy;
and the shepherds and husbandmen,
by thee made rich, tranquil, and
happy, shall never retire to rest with-
out praying the gods to preserve the
author of their felicity.

At these words, Numa, in a trans-
port of joy, exclaimed: O my tu-
telar divinity, to whom I shall owe my
own and my people's happiness! By
what fatality, by what cruel decree,
am

am I forbidden to behold thee? Will you thus overwhelm me with kindness, honour me with affectionate concern, and for ever deprive me of the delicious pleasure of contemplating my benefactress? Will you always by that impenetrable veil be concealed from my sight?

Numa, replied the voice, thou wilt irrevocably lose me, if thou attemptest to penetrate my retreat. Follow my advice; endeavour to secure the happiness of thy people; and I swear to thee by the highest of the immortal deities, that when thou shalt become the first of monarchs, thou shalt know, and behold Egeria.

After these words, the voice replied no more either to Numa's questions, or to his expressions of gratitude.

Impatient to profit by the nymph's instructions, he repaired to his palace,

lace, in order to meditate upon them; and on the morrow he was occupied in assembling a council.

He composed it of the most enlightened and worthy patricians; to whom he added an equal number of plebeians: and when the nobles expressed their surprize at being mingled with the people; Senators, he replied, this mixture is not offensive to you in war; in my council I find it essential to the public service. I am much more occupied with the people than with the nobility; a representation of the former, therefore, is necessary to defend their rights. I wish that these sage counsellors, who are unacquainted with the polish of courts, should express their sentiments with that freedom and simplicity, unknown to senators of rank; I desire, if my own pride, or the voice of flattery,

tery, deceive me with regard to my subject's happiness, that the commoners shall say : *King of Rome, believe not what you hear, we still know those who are unhappy.*

By the advice of this council, over which the aged Metius presided, Numa first adopted measures for extinguishing the jealousy between the Romans and Sabines, which alone endangered the public tranquillity. In order to intermix the two nations, he divided into tribes the inhabitants of Rome. By this expedient, each class composed equally of Romans and Sabines, abandoned the spirit of party for the love of their country. Thus, opposing the common interest to national pride, Numa quashed faction, and assimilated two nations into one people.

He

He next erected a temple to Concord, and another to Integrity, Clemency, and Justice: he caused honours to be paid to the god Terminus, as the symbol of property: he raised an altar to Universal Benevolence, that first of virtues, that source whence all virtues proceed. Inspired by affection for his people, he rose every morning at sunrise, to discover some latent evil, or to meditate some useful project, and thus industriously employed his time till the hour the council assembled. He then submitted to the examination of his friends the plans which his mind or rather his heart had suggested: he discussed them in the character of a simple individual. But when his own conviction was not shaken by the strength of contrary opinions, he de-

cided firmly as a monarch upon their propriety.

Without boasting of talents equal to every emergency, he entertained a maxim by which he was seldom deceived ; he always placed himself in the situation of those whose case he considered. If a law was preparing which would affect the husbandman, he stood in his place. What should I ask of my king? said he, to secure my property, to protect my labour, to defend me against the enemy, and the powerful citizen. To enjoy these advantages, it is just that I give a part of the produce of my harvest ; but there must remain a sufficient portion to support my wife and family, and to sow again my fields at the approaching season. When Numa had reasoned in this manner, he

com-

commenced his edict, and the husbandmen were satisfied.

If his council proposed war, he calculated its exact expence, and its advantages. He next considered what better use might be made of the same money ; what canals might be cut, what marshes drained, what heaths cultivated ; he compared these certain benefits with a doubtful victory ; and, by this simple operation of the mind, made those ashamed, who had hesitated between objects of such unequal moment. Without reproaching them, he was content with adding ; I do not calculate the loss of human blood, whose value is infinitely superior to gold.

After half the day had been spent in the contemplation of these great objects ; the king partook of a frugal

repast with the wisest and most ancient of his senators : he afterwards distributed justice, or secretly afforded assistance to some unfortunate objects. His donations were never taken from the public treasury ; he was too careful of that, even to bestow it on the distressed. These are my pleasures, he said, the state ought not to pay for them. But he expended in acts of humanity what was destined for the support of guards which he found unnecessary, for the expences of a table which he had regulated on the most frugal plan, and for his wardrobe, which was supplied by the most strict œconomy,

Thus virtuously occupied, he lightened the functions of royalty ; and every evening, having discharged his duty to his people and himself, he
gave

gave an account to Egeria of all he had done ; and sought in her conversation for further instruction.

END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK.

R 3 NUMA

NUMA POMPILIUS.

ARGUMENT.

BOOK XII.

Hersilia, accompanied by several kings, approaches to besiege Rome. The arrival of Camilla and Leo, who bring with them a prisoner. Leo's nocturnal expedition. The Marfi hasten to the assistance of the Romans. A battle is ready to commence. The speech of Numa. He disarms his enemies. The death of Hersilia. A general peace. Numa shuts the temple of Janus. He finds Anais, and becomes her husband.

THIS anxiety to provide for his people's happiness scarcely alleviated the sorrows of their king. Separated from the object of his affection, he was the only person in his empire who had cause of complaint.
He

He had ordered the strictest enquiry to be made throughout Italy, for Zo-roaster and Anais; but he was able to obtain no intelligence: the brave Leo did not appear, though his time was elapsed. Disconsolate, solitary amidst a people who adored him, Numa lamented the loss of his mistress, regretted the want of his friend, and dreaded the savage Herfilia.

That impetuous Amazon delayed not to manifest her rage. Clouds of dust were suddenly seen to rise on the Latian territories; which were soon succeeded by the glitter of lances. A confused noise, composed of the shouts of men, the neighing of horses, and the clangor of shields, grew louder every moment: resembling the stormy Boreas, when, escaped from his deep cavern, preceded by a hollow murmur, followed by tempests

and destruction, he tears up, from their foundation, forests and rocks.

From the walls of Rome thousands of combatants were now seen. The Rutuli advanced first, completely clad in steel, and armed with javelins of an enormous length. They marched in such close battalion, that their bucklers and helmets touched each other; and their floating plumes resembled a field of corn. The warlike Turnus was their general. Grandson of that hero whose name he bore, he was elated at bearing arms against the descendants of the Trojans. And captivated with the charms of Hersilia, he had sworn to deliver up Numa to her a prisoner.

After these advanced the Campanians, a weak but numerous band, commanded by the same king whom Leo had taken prisoner in Auxencia.

cia. The Volsci came next, with no other arms than bows; they were headed by the brave Arisbeus; who used to amuse himself with tying two doves together, letting them fly, and afterwards cutting the string with his arrow, without wounding the birds.

The Hirpini, armed with clubs, and covered with skins, advanced without any distinction of rank. Already vanquished by Romulus, peace had been granted on condition that an impregnable fortress should be erected in the centre of their kingdom, to be occupied by the Romans. Impatient to revenge this indignity, they had in vain attempted to acquire possession of the fortress; and they were now determined to wreak their vengeance on Rome. This enraged people were commanded by
a Mar-

a Marfian ftill more vindictive : The warlike Aulon, the descendant of Cacus, was their leader. He indulged an ardent paffion for Herfilia ; jealous of the fame of Leo, whom he fupposed to be at Rome with Numa, he forbade his warriors to attack thefe heroes, referving their fubjection for his own prowefs.

The Vefkini closed the march. Covered with white bucklers, they fought only with flings. Their black breast-plates and long beards infpired terror. The father of Camilla, the aged Mefapus, was ftill their king. Since the lofs of his daughter, he had become entirely dependent on the Hirpini, his allies ; and without being interefted for Herfilia, he ferved in an army which fhe had raifed.

In the centre of this army, the daughter of Romulus was diftinguifhed,

ed, like a palm-tree, surrounded by young shrubs. On her head, she wore a shining helmet, encircled with a golden diadem; in her right-hand she held two javelins, and on her left arm rested her buckler, the present of Ceres, the certain pledge of victory, and which she had received from Numa. This haughty Amazon, in a car drawn by black horses, passed rapidly through the ranks, encouraged some, remonstrated with others, inflamed still higher those who were most impetuous; and pointing to the Roman battlements, My friends, said she, behold my inheritance; put me in possession of it, and I will restore to you all my father's conquests. I swear to give my hand and my heart to him who shall bring me the head of Numa.

She

She spoke : the fierce Aulon lamented that so rich a prize was to be gained at so easy a price. Turnus beheld him with a look of disdain, and a haughty smile, and cast on the princess an amorous glance, whilst the Volscian Arisbeus, beholding with indifference the charms of Herfilia, applauded himself for being the only man who had come to battle solely for the sake of fame.

This numerous army extended itself over the plain, and encamped under the walls of Rome. The city was filled with consternation ; the inhabitants of the country, followed by their weeping families, and carrying what property they could save, arrived from all quarters ? the temples were crowded with women and old men : piteous cries of children
were

were heard ; the citizens fought for arms ; the soldiers were afraid of being destitute of the means of defence ; and the people at large, alarmed at seeing so numerous an enemy, rested their hopes solely on their king.

As Numa was prepared for this event, he was more composed at the approaching danger. He had provided magazines of provisions and arms, and a brave and numerous army. Cautious of fatiguing his troops, he dispensed with every unnecessary guard, supplied the wants of his men, and dissipated the general terror. Convinced that he had acted with wisdom, he lamented only the absence of Leo, and that his enemies intercepted his own visit to the Egerian wood.

In the dead of night, while he meditated the means of dividing his numerous enemies, he was informed that

that three warriors, at the gates of the city, desired admittance; Numa ordered them to be brought forward. But he no sooner perceived Leo, than he flew into his arms, and exclaimed; O, my brother! Do I again behold thee! Hast thou found her? Or am I condemned for ever to lament her loss!

My pursuit has been vain, replied Leo; I have traversed all the southern parts of Italy, without discovering any traces of Zoroaster or Anais. But I heard of the danger which threatened thee; I saw forces assemble for the siege of Rome, and I flew to thy assistance. The hope of gaining thee allies, inspired me with boldness to present myself before the Marfan people.

Citizens, said I, you have sent me into exile; but a desire of serving you has made me despise the danger
of

of violating your laws. You are either friends or enemies to the Roman people. The moment is arrived when you may either annihilate their power, or attach them to your interest for ever. The daughter of Romulus, that savage plunderer, who attacked us in our dwellings, has excited many nations to arm against Rome and the generous Numa, who was the first to solicit in our favour, an honourable peace. In joining Romulus's daughter, you will break a solemn treaty, you will violate gratitude and honour; but you will perhaps engage in an advantageous war. Your interest, however, may not be less promoted by being firm to Numa. Victorious by your assistance, he will restore to you the country of the Aurunci, will admit you to the
rights

rights of Roman citizens, and will consider you in the light of brethren. Having exercised such justice and humanity towards you as enemies, when you approach him as friends, what will be your reception? On this occasion, your interest and honour coincide. Make, however, your own choice: join a band of barbarians, commanded by the daughter of your bitterest enemy, already polluted with many crimes, and advancing to plunge a dagger into the bosom of her country; or hasten to the assistance of the most just and amiable of kings, who subdued me, and who defended your rights in a treaty of peace whose benefits you still experience.

I had no sooner finished, than they unanimously exclaimed: Let us march to the relief of Numa, and be Leo our general. No, replied I, humane,

mane, but inconstant people, who love and yet have banished me, I cannot be your leader. For a Marſian this honour muſt be reſerved: ſince Numa has been king of Rome, I have become a Roman. When, by the aid of the gods, I broke the poplar and obtained the command, I had four competitors who were doubtleſs my ſuperiors. Liger and Pentheus fell in battle; Aulon is general of the Hirpini; the aged Sophanor is no more; but the valiant Aſtor remains, the amiable diſciple of Apollo. Aſtor, from his infancy, has been diſtinguiſhed. His youth can only be objected to him; but if his talents have outſtripped his age, his youth is an addition to his merits. Let him then be your general: his patron Apollo will guide and protect your army. My impatience will not al-

low me to wait the departure of your troops ; I hasten to Rome to convince Numa that the Marfi are the most generous of mankind.

I was now interrupted by the loudest acclamations. Astor flew into my arms ; I presented him to the Marfi, I supported the buckler on which he was proclaimed their leader. Convinced that he would immediately hasten to thy assistance, I precipitated my steps, that I might rival even the Sabines themselves, in exposing myself in thy service.

Numa again ardently embraced his friend ; and could with difficulty separate himself from him. But the beauteous Camilla took off her helmet, approached the king of Rome, and complained of being neglected. Overjoyed, he seized her hand, covered it with tears and kisses ;
and

and contemplated Leo and Camilla with alternate tenderness; when his friend leading forward a young warrior in his suite, presented him to Numa, to whom he offered his sword.

Numa beheld the youth with surprise, found his features were not unknown to him, but could not remember where he had seen him. Hast thou then forgot Capis, said Leo, the son of the king of Campania, who left his father's army to become a centurion in that of Romulus, and who since has been with the Marfi as a hostage for peace. The treaty has been broken by the king of Campania; the Marfi have sent you his son; and he is before you as a prisoner.

He is my friend, exclaimed Numa, stretching out his hand to the prince of Capua, and a

friend whom I shall hold most dear, though his father be joined with the other kings who besiege my city.

Leo made a minute enquiry concerning the army of the allies; he was impatient for the morrow, that he might display his courage. But Numa was dejected when he remembered that Herfilia had the celestial buckler, which secured victory to its possessor. While she retained this, he was unwilling to hazard an engagement. Leo approved of his caution, and terminated a conversation which distressed his friend. Numa conducted Camilla and her husband to the most splendid apartment in his palace; he recommended Capis to the care of his officers; and cheerfully retired to rest.

Leo was urged by friendship to attempt a most dangerous enterprize; but

but he concealed his design from Camilla, lest she should insist to share his dangers. When she was asleep, therefore, Leo arose, took his lion's skin and his club, and proceeded with silent steps towards one of the gates of Rome; it opened as he approached. Alone in the fields, he looked around, and discovered the enemy's camp, and observed that the fires of the advanced guards were almost extinguished. He examined in what quarter he should be least perceived; but the moon, in her dazzling car, illumined objects with too bright a radiance. Leo prostrated himself, and addressed her in the following words:

O, Phœbe, I beseech thee deign to diminish thy splendour. To favour an iniquitous project thy assistance could not be requested. I am not

S 3

a rash

a rash lover, who wishes to seize by surprize the object of his desire. I am not a warrior, led on by the love of fame. No, spotless divinity, I am animated by a nobler sentiment, by the purest and most sacred friendship. I am going to recover the property of my friend, to repair the fault which Love prompted him to commit; Love, that cruel god, of whom thou hast ever been willing to be thought the professed enemy. O goddess, my cause and thine are the same; it is the cause of virtue.

His petition was scarce finished, when the moon retired behind a cloud, and veiled her brightness. Encouraged by this presage, he marched towards the camp. He arrived at the foremost guards, who, from his stature and club, thought him one of the Hirpini. Being acquainted

quainted with their language, he passed without obstruction. He penetrated into the middle of the camp, where the soldiers, overpowered with sleep and wine, lay scattered in confusion among their arms and chariots. He could easily have slaughtered a great number of men; but they were not in a state of defence, and their destruction was consequently unworthy of his generous disposition.

Leo felt neither rage nor terror; he recollected Aulon, as he was stretched on the ground, with his head resting on his buckler, and his axe lying by his side. He was much agitated by a dream; he uttered the names of Leo and Numa, accompanied with imprecations. By an involuntary emotion the hero elevated his club; but he forbore to

strike, and was contented with depriving Aulon of his enormous axe.

He at length discovered Herfilia's tent, which was ill guarded, and entered it without apprehension. The daughter of Romulus lay in the profoundest sleep. More anxious to discover the buckler than to contemplate the princess, he sought diligently for that treasure which the darkness concealed from his sight. The moon suddenly escaped from a cloud, and its rays were instantly reflected from the golden shield. Leo seized it : and, charged with this precious spoil, and with the axe of Aulon, he resumed the path in which he had advanced, traversed the camp a second time, and passed the last guards without meeting with any impediment.

He

Now in security; he was returning thanks to Phœbe, to Night, and to all the gods, when he heard behind him shouts and the noise of arms. The twilight began to diffuse its glimmering rays. Leo in astonishment beheld a woman armed with a bow, flying before a troop of Rutulians, whose career she at intervals impeded, by threatening them with her arrows.

He suspected it was Camilla before he saw her. He ran, called, and joined her. He gave her the celestial buckler, rushed upon the Rutuli, attacked them at once with his axe and club, flew back to his beloved wife, comforted, protected and conducted her towards the gates of Rome, and afterward returned to sacrifice those who dared to approach him. Thus the wild
boar,

boar, pursued by a dauntless pack of hounds, flies but continually turns upon and wounds the foremost of his enemies.

The timid Rutuli called to their companions. A general alarm was spread, and in every quarter they flew to arms. A detachment of Hirpini hurried to surround Leo, while a Volscian squadron advanced to cut off his retreat to Rome. Leo stopped; always near Camilla, who covered him in spite of himself with the golden buckler, constantly turning upon the Hirpini and Rutulians, he suddenly changed his course, and reached the Tiber. The enemy, thinking his destruction inevitable, shouted for joy. They endeavoured to inclose the fugitives between their lances and the river. Leo threw his club and axe to the
op-

opposite bank, clasped Camilla in his arms, and looking sternly on his foes, plunged into the waves, and notwithstanding their violence, and the arrows of the Volscians, he reached the shore, resumed his arms, and continued his journey to Rome.

He was no sooner out of the reach of danger, than the warrior was converted into the fond lover. Forgive me, my dear Camilla, forgive me, he exclaimed, for concealing any thing from thee. I have exposed my life, which is solely thine, without thy consent; but thou hast alarmed me for thy safety; my crime therefore has been sufficiently expiated. Couldst thou suppose, returned Camilla, that I should wait thy return? Couldst thou believe that my affection would be satisfied with vain tears? Soldiers less cruel than thee shewed me thy path,

path, opened for me the gate through which thou hadst departed; thus alone, surrounded by darkness and near the camp of the enemy, I had no other apprehension than that I should seek thee in vain.

Such were the tender reproaches of these affectionate lovers; the dangers to which they had been exposed, augmented, if possible, their mutual passion. The acquisition of the golden buckler heightened their felicity. It was daybreak when they re-entered Rome, and they waited with impatience the king's appearance, to present him with the hallowed shield.

Numa's joy was superior both to restraint and expression. He embraced Leo, and fell on his knees before Camilla. How infinite is my debt, said he; you have saved my throne and my honour. My throne
and

and my heart are yours; you shall reign over Rome, as ye do over the soul of Numa.

He immediately assembled his people, in order to exhibit to them the sacred buckler, and inform them of Leo's expedition. He instantly appointed him general of the Roman forces. Loud acclamations were confirming this worthy choice, when the centinels from the ramparts announced the approach of the Marfian army.

The intrepid Astor had deceived the enemy: he had crossed the Tiber near its source, and, by a skilful march, arrived under the walls of Rome, from the side of Etruria, which was the only pass not in possession of the besiegers.

Numa ordered the gates to be opened, and hastened himself to meet
his

his allies. At the head of ten thousand men Astor entered the city; on seeing the king he swore to him obedience and friendship. Numa affectionately embraced him; and the people sent forth shouts of joy. While the monarch conducted Astor to his palace, every citizen was impatient to greet a Marfian soldier, and to consider him as a brother.

Herfilia and Aulon, enraged at this event, ashamed of the losses which they had each sustained, and animated by an equal desire of vengeance, were eager to begin the assault; and at the same instant cried aloud, To arms. The Volsci, Hirpini, Campanians, Rutulians, and Vestini, obeyed their orders. The whole army left the camp, formed itself into battalions, and carrying scaling ladders, march-

marched towards the ramparts, preceded by the Catapults and Balistas.

Acquainted with this mode of attack, Numa did not anticipate its effects with terror. As cool at the approach of an engagement, as if he were offering sacrifice to the gods, he ordered Leo, at the head of the Romans, to descend into the plain; the like command was sent to Astor. Numa desired that the prince of Campania should be stationed in the middle of the Marrian troops; and that Camilla should be in the centre of the Roman army. He ordered not an arrow to be shot. He then put on his royal attire, encircled his brow with the diadem, took a sceptre and an olive-branch in his hand; and preceded by his lictors marched forth between the two armies.

The

The enemy surprized, ranged in order of battle waited for the Romans: these, having approached within an arrow's shot, formed a front nearly equal to that of their opponents. On each side bows were strung and swords drawn; Tisiphone, during this pause, goaded her serpents, and was impatient for the signal.

The king of Rome however advanced, raising the olive-branch over his head. His heralds commanded silence; in which they were joined by numberless voices. Notwithstanding the opposition of Herfilia and Aulon; the kings of the Vestini and of Campania, the leaders of the Volsci and Rutuli, approached towards the Roman monarch. Aulon was obliged to follow them; Herfilia herself, swelling
ing

ing with rage, came to hear the proposals of Numa.

Princes and heroes, said Numa in a tone at the same time mild and resolute, for what cause do you wage war against me? Have I ravaged your territories? Have I dragged into captivity your wives and daughters? Have I violated solemn treaties? What are your designs and your wishes?

That thou shouldst descend from an usurped throne, exclaimed Aulon; and restore to the daughter of Romulus the inheritance of her father. For her we have taken up arms; and are determined to assert her rights, and avenge her injuries.

Aulon, replied Numa, this diadem, of which thou art anxious to deprive me, was neither the object of my solicitation nor desire. I have paid dearly for the acceptance of it.

But the gods commanded; and I obeyed. This people have chosen me for their sovereign; Romulus himself had no other title. At Rome, the sceptre is disposed of by the nation's choice; among the Sabines it is hereditary, and they at present constitute one half of the Roman people. Owing to a series of crimes, which I will not now repeat, I am the last of the Sabine princes. The will of the gods, the people's wishes, inheritance, and the laws call me to the throne. You are the only persons who think these rights of no value; and you come to threaten me with a siege, without having even declared war against me. Far from complaining of your treatment, I thank you for it; you have enlisted justice on my side, you have secured to me the assistance of the gods.

Princes

Princes of Italy, I esteem you; and it will be your own fault if you become not the objects of my affection; but ye can never excite my terror. Behold the Roman army equal in numbers to your united forces; observe, besides, these gallant Marfi, who have come to my assistance, and eluded your vigilance. I am qualified therefore to repel force with force. I can afford even to lose battles, and still for many years to prevent your sacking my city. But if ye are once vanquished, what resources have you left? Imagine not that the Marfi are the only people who will lend me assistance! The Etrusci, the Apulians and Ligurians, will arrive in a few days. Encountered by so many foes, ye will be unable to resist, and must infallibly perish: the Vestini shall alone be

protected. Having ever proved allies to the Marfi, I confider them as friends; and I swear, in the prefence of you all, that they fhall never be treated as my enemies.

At thefe words, Aulon, Turnus, and Arifbeus, beheld the aged king of the Veftini; and their looks were diftruffful. Having already fucceeded in fowing jealousies among them, Numa proceeded in the following terms:

I fhould be the firft to lament a victory, which would occafion the deftruction of fuch a number of people; I fhould bathe with my tears the laurels which your blood had ftained. I wifh, princes, for peace; and without any fear of defeat, with a certainty in fact of victory, I propofe to you advantageous terms. To the Hirpini, I reftore the fortrefs
which

which Romulus erected in the centre of their country: it was an act of violence, and I am happy in being able to repair it. Volscians and Rutulians, I offer to you our alliance, and the rights of Roman citizens. King of Campania, though you have so soon forgot your last war with the Marfi, I am ready to present to you your son, who has been delivered up to me by your enemies. You, king of the Vestini, who have so long lamented the loss of a daughter, whom you believed to be buried in the waves, I am ready to restore her to you. Camilla and Capis approach, and embrace your fathers.

At these words they appeared, and flew into the arms of their respective parents. The old men could with difficulty believe their eyes: they shed tears of joy, and

clasped their children to their hearts in extasy.

Now point your arms against me, said Numa: my cause was previously equitable; I wished it to be more so. You were before only aggressors in the quarrel; proceed, and add to the fault ingratitude. I am now ready for action.

The two kings were overcome by this harangue. They fell at the feet of Numa and embraced his knees. The brave Turnus, and the sage Arifbeus, stretched out to him their hands, and called aloud for peace. Peace was echoed by all the soldiers.

Aulon alone made an effort to speak, but Leo ran towards him: If thou hast a thirst for blood, said he, behold me before thee; I restore thy axe, of which during sleep I deprived thee. Confounded at these words,
and

and by the presence of the gallant Leo, Aulon contemplated him in silence. Make haste, returned Leo: my heart shuddered at the idea of embruing my hands in the blood of a Marfian; renounce thy country, or accept my friendship. My choice is determined, said Aulon, joining his hand to that of Leo.

From this moment there was no impediment to peace. Exclamations of joy issued from every quarter; the two armies, quitting their ranks, began to mingle with each other, when the fierce Herfilia, who till this time had rested her hopes on Aulon, rushed forward, pale with many contending passions:

Cowards, she exclaimed, ungrateful, perfidious friends, who, overpowered by empty words, betray the cause of kings, think not that I shall
prove

prove an accomplice in your infamy. And thou, Numa, whom I now abhor as much as I once loved, receive my baneful farewell: Mayst thou feel equal torments to what thou hast kindled in my bosom! Mayst thou lament the impossibility of an unworthy object sharing thy throne, for whom thou hast deserted me! May the Roman people become inveterate enemies to the name of king, hunt it throughout the world after having first exiled thee, or thy unworthy successors! May the furies pursue thee with remorseless persecution; present to thy view Tatia continually expiring with the poison I gave her; and Hersilia dying of the wound which thy barbarous cruelty inflicts! At these words she buried her sword in her heart. Assistance came too late; she no longer breathed; and her settled features

features were marked with indignation and despair.

Numa unfeignedly lamented her fate; and commanded funeral honours suited to her rank to be paid to her remains. During the preparation of the pile, victims were sacrificed, and peace concluded on the conditions already specified. Numa then re-entered his capital, surrounded by the kings whom he had vanquished by his generosity.

The king of Rome conducted them to the capitol, where they offered sacrifices to Jupiter. And he here proposed a league which should secure the peace and freedom of Italy. Inspired with a reverence for Numa's virtues, the princes of Italy unanimously agreed that he should be the only arbiter between them. He accordingly examined their claims, in-
dem-

demnified them for their losses, gave further proofs of his own generosity, and digested a treaty, which they all joyfully ratified. His new allies now prepared for their departure, loaded with presents, secure of his integrity, and contemplating his character with the most affectionate veneration.

The king of Capua returned to his kingdom with his son, who had acquired the reputation of a skilful warrior among the Marfi. The Vestinian monarch could not persuade his daughter to accompany him to Cingilia: Camilla relinquished a throne, and wished to continue at Rome with Leo and Numa; and the felicity which she enjoyed was sufficient to render her father happy. The Volscians, Hirpinians and Rutulians, having obtained satisfaction for the injuries with which they reproached

proached Romulus, set out for their respective countries, blessing the name of Numa. The Marfi, put in possession of the country of the Aurunci, returned to Marrubia: and Astor departed with regret from his amiable ally. The Roman people, seeing a war concluded without the loss of a single citizen, blessed and adored their king.

Numa, having secured the peace of Italy, hastened to shut, with due solemnity, the temple of Janus, which during the reign of Romulus had been constantly kept open. The brazen gates, grated on their rusty hinges; but human strength was insufficient to close them.

Numa fell prostrate before the divinity: O Janus, said he, who didst reign in Italy by peace and justice, favour my pacific intentions. Shut
this

this tremendous temple: our hearts shall be the asylum where thou shalt in future be adored. Accept a new homage: our year till this period has begun with the month consecrated to Mars; I add to it two months, and the first shall be Janus: it is just that the god of war should give precedence to the god of peace.

He spoke. The gates of the temple moved of themselves upon their hinges, and closed with a tremendous noise.

Numa afterwards consecrated the golden buckler, which secured perpetual victory to the Roman people; and instituted, in its honour, priests by the name of Salii.

Having discharged these pious duties, he prepared to visit the Egerian wood; and took with him Camilla and Leo. But a dread of offending the
the

the nymph made him leave these affectionate friends at some distance from the fountain.

He no sooner arrived than he invoked Egeria; he regretted the long interval which had passed since he heard her voice, and gave an exact account of all his proceedings. Are you now satisfied? added he, in a timid and bashful tone. Yes, replied the voice, I am: from this day I consider thee as the most illustrious among kings. Having fulfilled my expectation; it is my duty to perform my promise; at length behold Egeria.

At these words she came forth from the wood: and in the unknown Egeria presented to his view the beloved Anais. He remained for some time motionless with surprize. He then prostrated himself before Anais; made attempts
to

to speak, but tears were all his eloquence.

Rise, she said ; I am not the nymph Egeria, but only a simple mortal ; and, be assured, the honours of a divinity would be less dear to me than being called thy friend. I heard thee relate thy dream at the fountain of Power, and knew thy hopes of being instructed by Egeria : my father and myself resolved to realize those hopes. Obligated to leave thee while thou becamest thy people's protector, we concealed ourselves in this wood, whither I was certain thou wouldst soon repair. Our projects have all succeeded. I spoke in the character of Egeria ; I gave thee counsels which were dictated by the profound intelligence of my father. This deceit was serviceable to thy fame, and gratifying to my feelings.

I saw

I saw thee through the branches, when thou imaginedst thou wert conversing with Egeria ! More happy than you, I was near thee, when thou lamentedst the loss of Anais.

Numa listened to her with transport. He soon saw Zoroaster, and threw himself into his arms with the most affectionate ardour. He then hastened to find Camilla and Leo. She is here ! he exclaimed at a distance, she is here ! Come, make haste, thy father and sister wait for thee.

Leo could hardly believe these words ; he however approached as quickly as possible. Zoroaster received him in his arms, and pressed him eagerly to his bosom : My son, my dear son, we are again met, and from this moment death alone shall part us. Leo replied by his tears ;
the

the amiable Camilla embraced Anais. Joy, love, and friendship seemed to deprive them all of the power of utterance.

Being relieved by their tears, Zoroaster conducted them to his cottage. Here, said he, is our retreat; here we propose to end our days. Numa, I give thee Anais: but the Roman people must never be acquainted with your nuptials; my daughter must not enter Rome. Under pretence of consulting the nymph, thou mayst every day pay a visit to thy wife; and the pleasure of relating them to us shall be the reward of thy good actions. Thus shall Anais continue faithful to her religion; mystery shall add new charms to Numa's happiness, and Zoroaster shall pass the little time allotted him by Orosmales in peace and

and comfort. Does this project meet with thy approbation?

Numa replied by embracing Zoroaster's knees; with a downcast look Anais modestly smiled; and Camilla and Leo expressed their approbation.

On the morrow the nuptials of Anais and Numa were celebrated in the cottage, without pomp or festival, before no other witnesses than Zoroaster, Camilla, and Leo. The happy Numa came daily to this retreat. He was inspired continually by the virtuous Anais and her father with fresh desire, and new means of becoming the most just and accomplished of kings.

In the society of his children Zoroaster arrived at an extreme old age. Leo, being general of the Romans, resided with his wife at Rome, and took from

her the surname of Camillus. From him descended that illustrious family, of which the most celebrated preserved Rome from the Gauls. Numa adoring Anais, and adored by her, reigned five and forty years. During that long period, no enemy visited the Roman territories, nor was the temple of Janus ever opened; and throughout Numa's dominions, there was not an individual rendered unhappy by the oppression of law, or by the exercise of injustice.

F I N I S.



This Day are Published,

On Imperial Quarto, Price 2s. 6d. to Non-subscribers, to Subscribers gratis, ornamented with a fine engraved Head, and a Specimen of the Letter-Press,

PROPOSALS FOR PRINTING BY SUBSCRIPTION,

A Translation of that Ingenious and Instructive Work,

ESSAYS ON PHSIOGNOMY,

By JOHN GASPARD LAVATER,

CITIZEN OF ZURICH AND MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL.

The Translation, from the superb Edition in French, revised and corrected by the Author, and collated with the original German, will be accompanied with Notes critical, historical, and explanatory, and will be enriched with exact Copies of all the original Engravings, executed in the most capital Style, and with Duplicates of some of the most interesting Subjects, from original Paintings or Drawings, to which the English Artist can have Access, and which Mr. Lavater frequently laments he had not the Means of consulting.

The Translator and the Artist have already made considerable Progress in the Work, and it will be ready for Publication according to the Conditions undermentioned.

The Letter-Press will be executed in the most superb Manner, and the Plates (exclusive of Vignettes) printed on the best French Paper: and every Effort of British Art and Industry will be employed to render the Book, in its new Dress, superiour to every former foreign Edition.

C O N D I T I O N S.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>I. The Work will be printed on Imperial Paper, equally adapted to receive the Letter-Press and Vignettes, and with a Type cast on Purpose.</p> <p>II. Each Number will contain at least Three Sheets of Letter-Press, accompanied with from Eight to Twelve capital Engravings, including Vignettes, designed to illustrate the different Subjects.</p> <p>III. The Work will be comprized, as nearly as can be computed, in Forty Numbers, which will make four magnificent Volumes in Quarto.</p> <p>IV. Subscribers to pay One Guinea Deposit, for which they are to have a Receipt from the Propri-</p> | <p>etors; in order to be ensured Proof Impressions of the Plates, as a Security for completing their Purchase, and to enable the Proprietors to do Justice to the Undertaking.</p> <p>V. The Price to Subscribers for first Impressions 12s. each Number.</p> <p>VI. The Price to Non-subscribers for second Impressions 15s. each Number.</p> <p>VII. Subscribers will be faithfully supplied with their Copies according to the Order of their Subscription.</p> <p>VIII. The Names of Subscribers to this Work will be printed.</p> <p>IX. No. I. on these Conditions will be published on Tuesday, the 1st of January, 1788.</p> |
|--|--|

To the PUBLIC.

THE professed Aim of this curious, entertaining, and instructive Work is to promote the Knowledge and the Love of Mankind. The Plan of it is perfectly original, and the Subject universally interesting and important. In the Execution there are incessantly discovered Marks of an enlarged Mind, a penetrating Genius, an ardent and pious Spirit, a warm and benevolent Heart. The Style of the Author is elegant, correct, and perspicuous; his Figures, of which he makes abundant Use, are, in general, just, bold, and striking; his Sentiments frequently noble and sublime.

To various Descriptions of Readers, the Editor flatters himself, the Translation and the Embellishments of these singular Essays will be highly acceptable. Artists in all the Branches of Design will be furnished with innumerable Hints respecting the Principles and the Improvement of their Art. The Philosopher will find himself conducted into a new, extensive, and useful Field of Speculation. Mr. Lavater's FRAGMENTS, as he modestly terms them, afford a rich Repast to the Lovers of polite Learning, who will be supplied with ample Matter to exercise, to gratify, perhaps to correct their Taste. To the Friend of Virtue it must yield heartfelt Satisfaction to meet with another generous, manly, spirited Attempt, to promote the Cause of Humanity, Goodness, and Truth: while the Man of Piety will rejoice in the animated and affecting Views which are continually presented of the great CREATOR's Power, Wisdom, and Beneficence.

The daring, fervid Spirit of Lavater, it is acknowledged, frequently hazards a Flight, which the Calm and Timid will be apt to tax with Rashness and Extravagance. But the very Wildness and Eccentricity of Genius please infinitely more than all the frigid, laborious Correctness of Phlegm and Apathy.

Neither the Author nor the Editor pretend to offer this to the Public as a perfect and finished Work. They are abundantly sensible that the Science of Physiognomy is as yet in its Infancy; but they are confident it is a Subject of successful, though of difficult Investigation. The learned, acute, and enterprising Swiss has made a respectable Beginning, and a meritorious Progress. Why may it not be reserved for British Ingenuity, Spirit, and Perseverance to complete his Design; to supply the Materials which are still wanting, to clear away what may be found superfluous, and to rear the Fabrick to its highest possible Pitch of Beauty, Solidity, Grandeur, and Usefulness?

* * Subscriptions are taken in by JOHN MURRAY, Bookseller, No. 32, Fleet-Street; by HENRY HUNTER, D. D. the Translator, Charles'-Square; and by THOMAS HOLLOWAY, the Engraver, No. 11, Bache's-Row, near Charles'-Square, Hoxton.

Also by G. NICOL, Bookseller to His Majesty; J. SEWELL, No. 32, Cornhill; J. WALTER, Corner of Spring-Gardens, Charing-Cross; J. STOCKDALE, and J. DEBRET, Piccadilly; R. FAULDER, Bond-Street; J. and J. FLETCHER, Oxford; J. and J. MERRILL, Cambridge; and by W. CREECH, at Edinburgh.